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## Police strike at football hooligans



An officer breaks into a house early yesterday

By STEWART TENDLER, PAUL WILKINSON AND JOHN GOODBODY

**NORTHUMBRIA** Police yesterday struck the opening blow against football hooligans planning to disrupt Euro 96, with raids leading to 19 arrests and the seizure of weapons and inflammatory literature.

Other police forces will carry out similar operations in the next few weeks after months of intelligence-gathering and analysis of violence during last season's football matches.

Northumbria Police sent 120 officers, including some wearing riot equipment and bullet-proof vests, to break into the homes of suspects at dawn. The addresses targeted in Operation Harvest were chosen after officers studied closed circuit television film of rampaging hooligans in Newcastle city centre on May 5, after Newcastle United's match with Tottenham Hotspur for the Premier League championship.

Newcastle is one of eight venues for games in the three-week competition, which starts in a fortnight and will be the biggest sporting event held in Britain since the World Cup in 1966. Other matches are being played in London, Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester, Sheffield, Nottingham and Leeds.

Over the past 18 months, police have been building up intelligence dossiers on gangs of hooligans

throughout Britain and targeting known leaders. The intelligence operations are aimed at identifying which games hooligans are likely to pick for confrontations and how they are likely to get to the venues.

The police strategy, agreed after months of discussions, will focus on trying to block potential trouble-makers before the matches start. Chief constables are determined to prevent city centres, railway stations and motorway service stations being turned into battlegrounds.

Police intelligence suggests that many of the foreign fans planning to attend the championships are not looking for trouble. The danger from right-wing xenophobic groups is also being played down: officers

fear that the main threat could come from British gangs who will seize any opportunity to pick fights.

Among the items seized yesterday were calling cards prepared by one Newcastle gang, which would have been left with victims after they had been attacked. As officers sifted through the seized material, Superintendent Peter Durham, the officer in charge of policing matches at Newcastle United's St James' Park ground, issued a warning that more arrests would follow.

Mr Durham said a publicity drive would be launched next week with pictures of a further 150 suspects involved in the violence earlier this month. He said that magistrates would also be urged to

remand in custody those brought before the courts. If bail is given, police want defendants to be banned from going into Newcastle while the tournament takes place.

Similar restrictions are likely to be requested by other forces if trouble breaks out. The Police have already discussed court action with magistrates and the Crown Prosecution Service.

At least 450 England fans have already been barred from attending the championship, because they are serving exclusion orders imposed by magistrates' courts under the 1986 Public Order Act.

Among those targeted in yesterday's raids were the "generals" of the notorious Gremlins, who follow

Newcastle United. Police recovered three imitation handguns, ammunition, 25 knives, ten baseball bats and coshes, a spear, machetes, army balaclavas and a gun catalogue. One bat carried was labelled "The Dentist".

Police also seized a scrapbook containing printed calling cards from The Gremlins and other gangs, including the Derby County Lunatic Fringe and the English Border Firm, who follow Shrewsbury Town. Some of the calling cards showed links between The Gremlins, who describe themselves as "boys of violence" and the English Border Firm. The cards contained messages such as

Continued on page 2, col 3

## Employers to get crime check on job applicants

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

**EMPLOYERS** are to have access to job applicants' criminal records under proposals to be outlined in a White Paper next month aimed at providing greater protection to the public.

The far-reaching plans, which will be announced during a high profile "law and order" week, include a proposal to set up an independent agency which would manage access to police criminal records.

Under Michael Howard's proposals separate categories of employer would be entitled to different levels of information about the criminal careers of prospective employees.

Employers in the most sensitive areas such as nursing homes, banks and accountancy would be able to get a full criminal records check, perhaps including details of offences committed in the distant past.

The Home Office has also suggested that all other employers should be able to ask a job applicant to present a printout from the national computer showing whether they have a criminal record.

Details of the criminal records of about seven million people are held on a new

computer system, Phoenix, at Scotland Yard. About 900,000 checks are carried out by the police every year.

Mr Howard is planning to widen the range of employers who can have access to a job applicant's criminal record, including spent convictions for those applying for jobs in the most sensitive areas.

David Maclean, a junior Home Office minister, last year outlined during a Commons debate the Government's thinking in the sensitive area of vetting. He said: "We believe a system of pre-employment checks is needed that is more accessible and more open, and will meet the needs of employers and other organisations who need to employ people in positions of trust."

Statutory authorities involving work with children such as social services and education departments can now carry out checks on potential employees but the Government wants to extend the categories of employer entitled to carry out a "full vetting check". It is expected that full vetting checks would be extended to dentists, osteopaths, nursing home managers, accountants, lawyers, bank and building society managers, and even firefighters.

The proposals will alarm civil liberties groups and organisations working to resettle offenders which will argue that such a huge extension of vetting will exclude tens of thousands of people from employment.

As well as giving employers access to records held on Phoenix, Mr Howard is planning a consultation paper on setting up a national register of convicted paedophiles.



The Chelsea Flower Show ended with sales of icecream lower than last year and sales of tea and coffee up sharply. Pages 4 and 22, Gardening, Weekend pages 4, 5

### Major takes day trip to Bosnia

John Major went on a one-day trip to Bosnia to monitor the peace accord and to encourage British troops serving as part of the Nato-led implementation force. He was the first Western leader to visit the Bosnian Serb republic. **Page 12**

### Referee pays out

Michele Benton, a graduate who claimed that a poor refereeing by the former Polytechnic of Wales destroyed her career prospects, won £25,000 after a seven-year battle. **Page 3**

### Vialli transfer

Gianluca Vialli, of Juventus, has joined Chelsea on a contract believed to be worth £3 million. West Ham have signed Paulo Futre from AC Milan. **Page 44**

## New Labour, Old Jokes — as gags get a Mandelson spin

By JAMES LANDALE, POLITICAL REPORTER

PETER MANDELSON, ace spin doctor and scourge of traditional socialists, has found a new notoriety among old Labour wags.

The party's beleaguered election strategist is now the target of their jokes. As denials of a rift between Mr Mandelson and Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, continue to reverberate in the corridors of Westminster, Mr Brown reportedly took a witty swipe at his colleague at the People's Palace, Gallery on London's South Bank.

Referring to Mr Mandelson's alleged unpopularity in the party, Mr Brown told of the time when the Machiavellian figure asked him for 10p so he could use a pay phone to call a friend. "I gave him 20p so he

could call them all," Mr Brown reportedly said.

The remark is the latest in a line of anecdotes about the MP for Hartlepool: one allegedly goes that he pointed at some mushy peas in a chip shop and asked for the avocado mousse.

Mr Mandelson was also the subject of more mirth at the

People's Palace event last week — a fundraising dinner for *Tribune*, the left-wing magazine. Several Labour MPs took the opportunity to lampoon his new book, *The Blair Revolution*, which outlines the intellectual backdrop to the Labour leader's modernising reforms. As part of the fund-raising, *Tribune* auctioned their review copy with selected comments from fellow Labour MPs inscribed inside the flyleaf. Paul Flynn, MP for Newport West, summed up the tone of their remarks.

"This book is like a ride by train across Canada — miles and miles of '\*\*\*' all."

Martin Rowson, the political cartoonist who won the book, complained: "I paid £100 for it. I was drunk."



Mandelson, left, was butt of joke by Brown

## Reforming judges take over at the top

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

A FUNDAMENTAL shake-up of both civil and criminal justice systems was heralded yesterday with the announcement that Sir Thomas Bingham is to be the next Lord Chief Justice, the most senior serving judge.

Sir Thomas's current post as Master of the Rolls, the country's top civil judge, goes to Lord Woolf, the law lord, ushering in the most radical partnership at the top of the judiciary in legal history.

The appointments, which take effect on June 4, have been prompted by the enforced retirement of Lord Taylor of Gossforth, who has cancer, and come at a time of unprecedented tension between the Government and judiciary. But the changes — announced within 24 hours of

an onslaught by Lord Taylor and an array of peers and former Tory ministers over the Government's sentencing plans — prompted fears in some quarters that judicial opposition to the measures might not be so sustained under the new leadership.

Anne Rafferty, QC, chairman of the Criminal Bar Association, reflected the muted reaction of many in legal circles when she said: "Our response is really overshadowed by our sadness at the departure of Lord Taylor, for whom we feel great warmth and affection." She added: **Continued on page 2, col 1**

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COLUMNIST  
OF THE YEAR

## Hogg prepares to accept his fate

BY PHILIP WEBSTER  
AND MICHAEL HORNSBY

DOUGLAS HOGG admitted yesterday that he could lose his job over his handling of the beef crisis and hinted that he has offered to quit.

The embattled Agriculture Minister spoke as the Government formally launched its challenge to the European Union's ban on British beef exports, lodging appeal papers with the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg.

Mr Hogg, who has seen John Major and Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, take charge of the Government's response to the affair, has been under growing criticism from ministers. They say he has been insensitive in government discussions and in dealing with Britain's European partners.

He told BBC Radio 4's Today that

if he were dismissed he would accept his fate with "as much grace as I can muster". Asked whether he had offered to resign, he spurned the opportunity to deny Westminster reports and said only: "Ah, that's another matter, isn't it." Neither Mr Hogg, his officials, nor Downing Street offered to clarify his remarks.

Whitehall sources disclosed that Mr Hogg has had personal talks with Mr Major since the BSE scare began and they speculated that he may have proffered his resignation at such a meeting. A senior source said: "Mr Hogg is very patriotic. He has a sense of duty. It would be fully in keeping for him to have offered to put his life on the line."

On the same programme Mr Hogg set out a step-by-step framework for lifting the European Union ban on British beef, admitting it could take a long time. Asked if the ban would still

be in force by the end of the year, he said: "I prefer not to speculate in those terms, but I do accept that we are looking at quite an extended programme. There is a lot of opposition and it is going to take time to break that opposition down."

He was looking for a relaxation of the ban on tallow, gelatine and semen at the next meeting of EU farm ministers on June 3 and 4, to be followed "within a few weeks" by young calves, exports to non-EU countries and beef from specialist, slow-maturing herds certified to be free of BSE.

Mr Hogg made no mention of any further cull of cattle, which is certain to be demanded by Brussels and other EU member states. He admitted that the BSE crisis had been difficult but denied that it had been mishandled.

He said: "If you are looking at the

main issues... I think we have done that which we have needed to do and I do not honestly think we have failed to do anything that we ought to have done."

Mr Hogg said that he was "not by instinct a quitter", adding: "This is a difficult and interesting job. I like doing it and I am very happy to go on doing it, but it is equally true that all ministers' jobs are at the disposal of the Prime Minister and if he feels that somebody else will do it better, I will accept his decision with as much grace as I can muster."

Brussels officials have said that a serious situation has been aggravated by Mr Hogg's decision not to give them warning of the impending scare and by his subsequent "undiplomatic" behaviour at meetings of farm ministers.

Sources close to government committees monitoring the crisis have

complained about what they call his graceless approach. Others call him a know-all who has failed to grasp the magnitude of Britain's isolation over the issue.

Paddy Ashdown yesterday put his party on the alert for a possible "beef election" in the autumn. In a letter to his local Yeovil party, the Liberal Democrat leader said that Conservatives were talking of going to the country on the issue of "Who runs Britain — Westminster or Brussels?"

Meanwhile it emerged yesterday that Jacques Santer, the European Commission president, has pulled out of a planned visit to Britain. He had been due to deliver a keynote speech on Britain's future in Europe. The Commission's UK office strongly denied the decision to abandon the three day visit next month was connected to Britain's non-co-operation policy with Europe.

Rifkind calls  
for more  
privatisation

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

MALCOLM RIFKIND yesterday called for the privatisation of the remaining publicly-owned industries and greater private provision of services such as health, education and welfare.

In a rare speech on domestic policy, the Foreign Secretary set out his stall to Conservative MPs in a way that confirmed their belief that he has markedly moved to the Right and could be a prominent contender in a future party leadership contest.

Mr Rifkind, whose scepticism over a single European currency has already stamped his credentials among his party's Euro-sceptics, will have pleased the Right with his endorsement of an increasing role for private sector "social insurance" to curb the growth of social security spending and with his call for the Government to continue the fight against vested interests even at the risk of short-term unpopularity.

In what seemed to be backing for any future attempt to privatise the Post Office, the Foreign Secretary said that the few remaining industries that

were in public ownership needed to be placed where they belonged, in the private sector. Aides said he was particularly keen to see more of the defence service industries privatised.

Speaking in Edinburgh, Mr Rifkind said the Conservatives should always be seeking to reduce the burden of taxation when it was fiscally prudent.

"It should always be our assumption that in most areas, though not all, the private as opposed to the public provision of goods and services is preferable. So when we talk of targets for the public sector share of gross domestic product, as Conservatives we should always be examining how we can reduce the current figure further. It is a challenge that should never go away."

In the health service, he called for a "relentless" search for efficiency savings by cutting out "unnecessary" administration and ensuring doctors focus on proven treatments. Following the introduction of nursery vouchers, he said there had to be a further examination of the public and private mix in the provision of

education. There would have to be "an increasing role for private sector social insurance in an increasingly prosperous society."

Mr Rifkind's is one of a series of speeches recently by leading Tory figures which have inevitably been seen as reminders of their leadership status.

He agreed that there was a problem in presenting Conser-

vatism. Their policies could sound harsh and uncompromising while those of their opponents could sound cosy and reassuring. He said: "In power, Conservatives will always be vulnerable to the individual example. Our philosophy is to try to devolve power to individuals and that inevitably means that we must accept the risk of those individuals making mistakes."



Rifkind: his speech will have pleased the Right

Pheasants destroyed  
in fowl-pest outbreak

A pheasant-rearing farm in East Sussex is counting the cost of Britain's first outbreak of fowl pest (also known as Newcastle disease) for 12 years. A second outbreak is suspected and being investigated on a nearby chicken farm.

The entire stock of 3,550 birds owned by Roger and Jane Garrard of the Sly Farm and Pheasantry at Broad Oak, near Heathfield, were destroyed by officials from the Ministry of Agriculture within hours of the highly contagious disease being confirmed.

An area within six miles of the farm has been quarantined for 21 days during which no movements of poultry or hatching eggs will be permitted. The restrictions extend to all birds in captivity, including racing pigeons.

## Tunnel security switch

Eurotunnel is laying off 40 security guards at the entrance to the Channel Tunnel, regarded as one of Britain's top terrorism targets, and replacing them with secretaries and catering staff to save money. The guards, whose role includes searching cars and lorries entering the tunnel, are on fixed contracts that are not being renewed when they run out in September. The company, which owes its bankers £5 billion, said the replacement staff would have "the same selection procedure as anybody else and if they are not good enough they will not get the jobs".

## Airport security held up

Almost eight years after the terrorist bomb over Lockerbie, few European airports have introduced security screenings of all hold bags, security experts at the European Civil Aviation Conference in London admitted. Only Britain and Belgium are near to ensuring that all hold baggage goes through an X-ray or explosive-detection machine on its way from the check-in desk to the hold of an aircraft. More than £400 million in advanced American-made equipment capable of detecting bombs or explosives will not be operational at all British airports until the end of the year.

## Tube gets steamed up

The age of steam returns to the London Underground this weekend with a series of excursion between stations at the northern end of the Metropolitan Line from today until Monday. Two steam-hauled passenger trains will run from 10am to 7pm during the three days with half-hourly services between Watford and Amersham. Between Harrow and Moor Park enthusiasts can see two steam trains running parallel at the start of each day. Steam engines continued to be used on the Underground, mainly for shunting, until 1971, three years after they disappeared from British Rail.

## Drug hope for acne

Scientists have grown acne in the test tube, opening the way to a cure for one of the worst scourges of adolescence. Using skin from middle-aged women discarded during facelift surgery, researchers at the University of Cambridge led by Dr Terence Kealey have demonstrated in the laboratory how the pores become clogged and inflamed, causing acne. Unilever, which funded the research published in the Journal of Investigative Dermatology, has patented the process in the expectation that it will lead to a new designer drug for acne.

## Reforming judges

Continued from page 1  
"We welcome the appointment of the new Lord Chief Justice and view it with polite interest."

The appointment of Sir Thomas, 62, is a break with tradition in that his legal career was not forged in the criminal courts. Both he and Lord Woolf are reformers, committed to a radical overhaul of the civil courts to cut delays and cost in the civil justice system, now being finalised by Lord Woolf at the end of a two-year inquiry.

As Master of the Rolls, Lord Woolf will be ideally placed to oversee his own reforms, while Sir Thomas is expected to apply the same principles — more management of trials by judges, curbs on lawyers' long

speeches — in the criminal courts. Sir Thomas is also likely to look afresh at some of the shibboleths of the criminal justice system such as the circuit system by which High Court judges travel out to the regions.

Both men also strongly favour incorporating the European Convention on Human Rights into domestic law.

On sentencing reforms, Sir Thomas has so far been measured, expressing some concern about minimum sentences but also sympathising with the aim behind the measures.

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## Raid on hooligans

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"Invasion of Belgium 1994", which is in reference to the clash between rival fans when Newcastle United went to Antwerp for the Uefa Cup.

Police are aware that The Gremlins' main rivals, the Seaburn Casuals, who follow Sunderland, have launched a recruitment drive for Euro 96, complete with a poster campaign to attract supporters in the city and from abroad.

Alan Oliver, Northumbria's Assistant Chief Constable, said that the campaign "indicates the level of organisation involved. While football violence has been largely eradicated from grounds, there is a feeling it still remains in the background. This confirms what we saw in Ireland [dur-

ing the Ireland v England match last year] and other international matches. The organisation is very worrying and something we are tackling."

Information from yesterday's raids will be analysed at the football intelligence unit at the National Criminal Intelligence Service's headquarters in south London. The unit will operate a 24-hour intelligence nerve centre from a special suite at Scotland Yard during Euro 96, manned by officers from 19 forces.

North Sea Ferries said yesterday that it would refuse to bring parties of foreign fans to England for the tournament. The firm runs four overnight ferries from Rotterdam and Zeebrugge to Hull.

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## Road rage thugs threaten man, 73, with petrol bomb

By Bill Frost

A TWICE wounded war veteran suffering from cancer was dragged from his car, beaten mercilessly and threatened with a petrol bomb during a "road rage" attack by three young men.

Ronald Francis, 73, waved his thanks when he was given the right of way by the driver of another vehicle, who apparently thought he had made an obscene gesture. After a chase, the old soldier, who fought with the 2nd Parachute Regiment and at Arnhem, was overtaken by his pursuers.

"I was frightened to death, absolutely terrified," Mr Francis said. "They followed me after I waved at them for letting me through at the corner. Before they dragged me out of my car, one of them walked up with a bottle filled with a pink liquid. He screamed he would 'torch' the car if I didn't open the door. I had no choice but to get out. I have had horrible thoughts about being burnt since seeing Germans kill our wounded and dying at Arnhem with phosphorus bullets."

Two of the three men dragged him from behind the wheel by his hair and swung him on to the side of the vehicle before beating him about the head, body and legs. The third stood by eating chips.

Mr Francis, who suffers from cancer of the prostate, was set upon after leaving a branch meeting of the Normandy Veterans Association (NVA) in Portsmouth, Hampshire, on Tuesday night. His attackers only relented when

one noticed their victim was wearing an NVA crest on his blazer. He pointed this out to the other two, who pushed him back into his car and, accusing him of putting up two fingers to them, warned: "Don't do that again." Before leaving they gave Mr Francis one last kick.

After driving home to Chichester, where he lives with his wife Edna, he was admitted to hospital and treated for shock and bruising.

Hampshire police said one of the men, who were in a dark coloured saloon car, possibly a Vauxhall, was 6ft tall and aged about 20. He had a long chin and denim jacket, and it is thought he was called Pauly.

Detective Sergeant Graham Wilson said: "This was a clear example of jobs committing

wanton violence. Mr Francis is terrified as a result of this attack. It's a particularly nasty incident of road rage and none of the officers who have been dealing with this can quite believe the circumstances."

The attack has appalled and angered Mr Francis's fellow Normandy Veterans. Eddie Wallace, the Portsmouth branch chairman, said: "I just do not know what is happening to people these days. I don't wish to put down all young people, but it seems to be typical of the army of uneducated youth of today. There is no way a man of Ronald's age is going to make any sign that is going to cause anyone to wallop him."

Mr Francis joined the RAF in 1940 aged 18 but transferred to No 2 platoon, 2nd Parachute Regiment in 1942 as a machine-gunner. He was one of 10,000 troops dropped to take the bridge at Arnhem.

"Less than 2,000 of our boys came home from Holland. I was shot in the thigh on the bridge at Arnhem, and bayoneted in the knee during the third German bayonet charge," he recalled. "I didn't go through the bloody war to be treated like this."

"If this had happened when I was 30 years younger it would have been a different story. I was trained in close-order fighting techniques when I was in the Paras and I would have given all three of them a damn good pasting."

"I can't believe this happened to me. What kind of a world do we live in where people can attack an old man just because he's waved at them?"



Francis dragged out of car and beaten



Michele Benton claimed remarks in the reference were inaccurate and misleading

## Graduate wins £25,000 for bad job reference

By John O'Leary and Tim Jones

A GRADUATE who claimed that a poor reference destroyed her career prospects has won £25,000 compensation in a landmark case that could have lasting consequences for employers' traditional selection processes.

Michele Benton, who is now 33, accepted an out-of-court settlement after a seven-year battle for loss of earnings in a job as a computer programmer. Employment experts said that the award would discourage firms and education institutions from giving candid accounts of job applicants.

Mrs Benton, from Fareham, Hampshire, took action against the former Polytechnic of Wales, now the Glamorgan University, when a job offer was withdrawn by Monmouth Borough Council three days before she was due to start work. Council officials said her reference was unsatisfactory but refused to allow her to see the document.

After years of litigation and searches for "misleading files", Mrs Benton was finally able to read what had been written about her. She claimed that remarks written by a course leader were inaccurate and misleading.

The reference questioned her "personal attitude and emotional state". Mrs Benton's work was said to

be of a very low standard. Despite divorcing during the final year of her course, Mrs Benton managed a third-class degree but the reference said it had been considered extremely unlikely that she would survive the course.

Mrs Benton sued Mid-Glamorgan Council, which was responsible for the polytechnic at the time, for £98,000, based on a starting salary of £10,470 a year in the job she lost.

Now remarried and chairman of her own computer company, Mrs Benton said the reference had wrecked her chances of a vital first job. "I hope my action will set a precedent and make sure that no other student is treated in the same way."

Graham Wright, who wrote the reference, said: "I gave the reference in good faith, and it was perceived to be in the best interests of both the applicant for the job and the employer."

But Gary Davies, the director of marketing and public affairs at Glamorgan University, said reference procedures had since been reviewed and guidelines issued to all staff. "It is a lesson we have learned and a warning to other organisations to be very careful with references which may be construed as being opinionated and prejudicial."

## Heiress on film trying to hire killer

AN HEIRESS who teaches at a Sunday school and tried to have a property developer killed after a business deal went wrong was told by a judge yesterday that she faces a prison sentence.

Sheelagh Costaine, 39, had denied two charges of soliciting to murder John Tunstall, 59, who was engaged by Costaine's family to sell properties in Italy and was owed £50,000 by Costaine.

Costaine, the daughter of a Countess, had denied offering Adrian Brooks £10,000 to "shoot, kill and eliminate" Mr Tunstall in February last year.

Mr Brooks contacted police and Costaine was secretly filmed at a hotel in High Wycombe asking the police officer to have Mr Tunstall killed. A psychiatric report on Costaine, found guilty at Reading Crown Court, said she "acted irrationally".

Costaine, of Chesham, Buckinghamshire, was released on conditional bail but Mr Justice Sedley told her she should "recognise the seriousness of her situation". She will be sentenced on June 13.

## Police seek clue to M25 killer

By Bill Frost

ALTHOUGH they have received thousands of calls from the public about the "road rage" murder of a man on the M25 by another driver, police say they need more positive information to catch the killer.

Detective Superintendent John Grace, who is leading the hunt for Stephen Cameron's killer, said that despite an overwhelming response to the BBC television *Crimewatch UK* programme, he needed information "that hits me between the eyes".

Mr Cameron, 21, was stabbed to death in front of his fiancée, Danielle Cable, on Sunday at the Swanley intersection of the M25 by the driver of a Land Rover Discovery. Miss Cable made an emotional appeal for help in catching the man on the programme on Thursday.

Mr Grace said several informants — over 2,000 had contacted police so far — had given names and described violent people. "But what we need is just that little bit more which actually makes us sit up

and get excited about this information, so that we know this is the right person we are looking for."

Kent police said last night that detectives were still working on the assumption that the killer had been driving a Land Rover Discovery. "There are thousands we need to trace and there is no guarantee that the vehicle was carrying legal plates, they could have been false," a spokesman said.

The driver of the L-registered vehicle is described as in his late thirties to early fifties, 5ft 10in tall, of medium build with dark greying hair. Miss Cable appealed to anyone who might be shielding him to come forward.

"Just phone, tell us who it is. We can't grieve about him until this person's been found," she said.

"We'd been together for three years. We got engaged at Christmas. We were going to get married soon. I just wish he had stabbed me as well, so I could have died with him and we could still be together."

## Anne Diamond has a bad morning after show is axed

By Robin Young

JUST because you usually face the public on a sofa does not mean that you take things lying down. Anne Diamond was said to have proved that at the farewell party for the BBC's *Good Morning* programme, axed yesterday after a four-year run.

She and her co-presenter Nick Owen joined 50 programme staff for the party shortly after the show ended yesterday. The partygoers saw Ms Diamond's reaction when she received a bouquet

of flowers and a faxed message of thanks from Alan Yentob, the Controller of BBC1. She threw them on the floor in disgust, a witness claimed.

"Alan Yentob obviously meant it as a gesture of goodwill thanking them for all their hard work but it backfired badly. Anne read the fax message and plainly did not agree with what Mr Yentob said about the programme," a guest at the party alleged. The guest reported Ms Diamond as saying: "After what I have just read, I

could not possibly accept these flowers." The guest claimed: "Then she just flung the bouquet to the floor. A lot of people looked pretty amazed at the outburst."

The guest's account of the party was different from that offered earlier by Gordon Kaye, the star of *Allo 'Allo*, who had appeared on the final programme. He said as he left the BBC's Pebble Mill studios in Birmingham: "The atmosphere in there is wonderful. There are no tears and it is a terrific send-off."

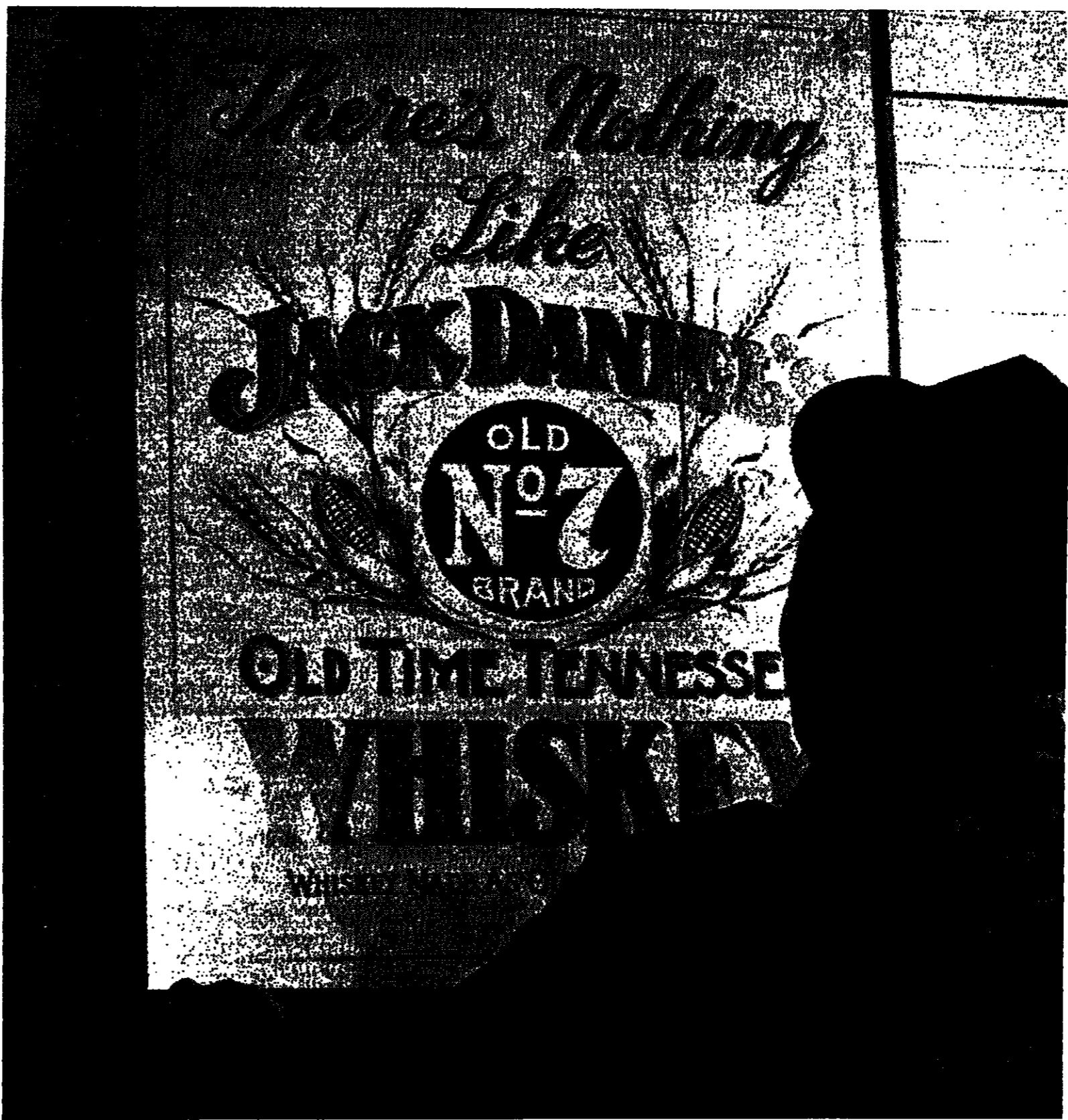
Phil Dale, Ms Diamond's agent in London, said: "Anne did put the flowers down but the bouquet was very large, absolutely enormous. She took the flowers with her when she left."

A BBC spokesperson at Pebble Mill said: "It is true that Anne refused the flowers offered by Mr Yentob, which were presented to her by Nigel Chapman, Pebble Mill's Head of Broadcasting, on his behalf. It would be fair to say that Anne had trouble accepting the tribute after the show had been axed and was a little put out."

The BBC will fill *Good Morning*'s time with children's programmes and sport. It has not yet announced presenters or format for the programme that will take over after the summer.



Diamond and Owen on the last Good Morning



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# Eastbourne takes the shine off Jersey's sun boast

By PHILIP JEUNE

EASTBOURNE has won the opening skirmish in "sun wars", but arch rival Jersey still claims to be the sunniest place in the British Isles, and is supported by the Meteorological Office.

The East Sussex resort, which has nearly 200,000 visitors a year, complained to television watchdogs about an advertisement in which the Channel Island claimed, on average, to get more sunshine than anywhere else.

The claim was based on Met Office statistics for 1961-90 which show that Jersey, which gets half a million UK visitors, had more sunshine than its mainland rivals. However, over the past five years Jersey has been beaten in the sunshine stakes by Eastbourne and, based on these figures, Eastbourne council claimed the TV ad was misleading.

In a ruling to be announced next week, the Independent Television Commission upholds Eastbourne's complaint,

saying that the 1991-95 figures, being "more recent and covering a reasonably long period", should take precedence.

"I'm delighted that the ITC have said that this sort of claim takes things too far," Ron Cussons, Eastbourne's director of tourism, said. "Jersey has been selective with the figures it chose. You could go back 100 years."

However, Sheila Henwood, director of tourism on Jersey, said: "We're very surprised by the decision. In meteorological terms 30 years is considered to be the relevant period, not five. We suspected that Eastbourne felt this was a publicity opportunity."

That the 30-year figure is the right one is a view shared by Malcolm Brooks, of the Met Office at Bracknell, who says that Jersey is the sunniest place in the British Isles with its average of 1,914 hours of sunshine a year.

Jersey's advertisement, part of a £2 million campaign featuring the comedienne Dawn French as the voice of

an animated Jersey cow, Lillie, was originally approved by the Broadcast Advertising Clearance Centre after seeing the 30-year statistics.

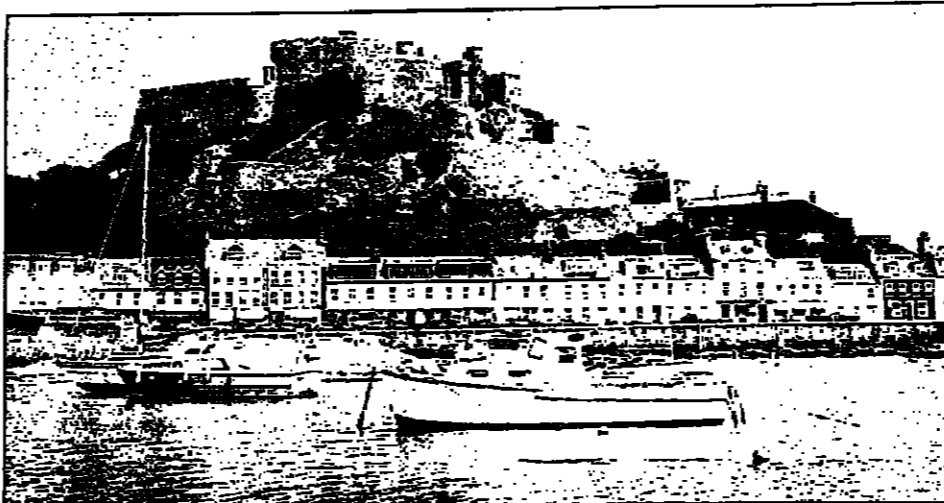
"We had to prove our claims before the ad went on air," Mrs Henwood said, "and evidence was provided to the BACC about our sunshine and our clean seawater. All the evidence is stacked in our favour."

However, after the ITC decision, Lillie appears to have been put in the shade by Eastbourne's tourism mascot, Mr Sunshine. Senator Dick Shenton, Jersey tourism chief, reacted philosophically to the news. "Good luck to Eastbourne. I wish them well," he said, adding: "There are enough tourists out there for all of us."

The official Met Office figures show that from 1961 to 1990, the average amount of sunshine was 1,914 hours in Jersey and 1,833 in Eastbourne. From 1991 to 1995, Eastbourne had 1,832 hours and Jersey 1,798.



Eastbourne: tourist chiefs claim that an advertisement for Jersey is misleading



Jersey: advertised as having more sunshine than anywhere in the British Isles

## Longed-for rain washes out holiday events

By HARVEY ELLIOTT AND KYLE SMITH

VILLAGE fairs, cricket matches, hot-air balloon meetings, fruit-picking festivals and even sheep-shearing competitions were called off yesterday as the rain poured down and Britain faced another washed-out Bank Holiday weekend.

But weather forecasters offered a glimmer of hope for Bank Holiday Monday, which should be dry with some sunshine even though temperatures are expected to be well below the average for late spring.

"We are getting the kind of weather that we should have had about six weeks ago," a Met Office forecaster said yesterday. "We are hovering between winter and spring and although it looks as if Monday will be rather better, make the most of it because this unsettled weather is continuing as far ahead as we can see."

The rain which prevented the completion of the England v India one-day cricket match at The Oval forced the abandonment of a horse race meeting at Brighton and prevented sheep-shearing because of the sodden wool and aching wrists of shearers in the biting cold.

The Chelsea Flower Show ended on a damp and dripping note. Because of the rain, 140,000 cups of tea and coffee were sold compared with 90,000 last year, while sales of ice cream were down to 30,000 against the 80,000 enjoyed by visitors during the hot weather a year ago.

But at least the water companies were smiling as the rain helped reservoir levels. There was some hope that they would be able to keep the water taps running through the summer.

Others were less sanguine. Derek Belton, of the British Balloon and Airships Club, faced reality and admitted: "Events have been washed out

this weekend." Peter Plummer, of the Auto-Cycle Union, said many motorcycling events had already been cancelled and that the British Motorcross Championship, due to be held today in Ailsbury, Cambridgeshire, is under threat.

Fred Inch, of the English Bowling Association, said: "We're not happy with the weather. In fact, it's terrible. We've had the worst start to the season we've had in years."

Fruit-picking was also held back largely because there is so little ripened fruit to be found. Concordia, a group of youth services volunteers, said picking sessions were cancelled for the weekend. Even the crop needed to supply Wimbledon fortnight is threatened by the late start to the season.

But some people remained undaunted by the rain. Morris Dancers promised to celebrate the spring as usual. Martin Roberts, secretary for Open Morris, said: "We'll go on regardless, especially at Whitsun."

"There's certainly some big weekends and events coming up and they won't get cancelled just because of the weather, although we prefer it to be sunny. To be honest, we like to think the weather actually changes for us."

Many tourism officials said that pre-booking had already guaranteed surprisingly strong business for the Bank Holiday weekend. In Bournemouth, the tourist trade was "actually looking good", the tourism office said.

"If the sun was shining, I expect our phones would have been even busier. We've done our sun dance here, the opposite of a rain dance, but it hasn't worked this weekend."

Forecast, page 22  
Weekend, page 1

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## Disruptive pupil cured by learning with mother

By A STAFF REPORTER

TEACHERS put a disruptive schoolboy on the path to becoming a model pupil by arranging for his mother to sit with him in class.

Anthony Kidd, 15, had been suspended from school because of rudeness to teachers and other misbehaviour. But when he returned he showed no improvement and ignored threats of further action.

Staff at Hattersley High School in Tameside, Greater Manchester, took up Debbie Kidd's suggestion that she accompany her son to lessons for a day to make sure he paid attention. The embarrassing experience had a salutary effect and Anthony has now been nominated as a prefect.

Michael Buczynski, deputy headmaster, said: "When An-



Anthony Kidd: given unforgettable lesson

thony found out what was up he was devastated. He was terrified he was going to be shown up in front of his friends. She sat at the back and said, 'Come on Anthony, get on with your work.'"

Anthony, who is studying for GCSEs and hopes to become a vet, said: "The lesson was an experience I won't forget. I was really embarrassed."

Mrs Kidd said that he had "improved a lot". The 500-pupil comprehensive school has no plans to repeat the experiment, but teachers say the fear of similar humiliation has subdued his classmates.

Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, said: "If anything works in turning around disruptive pupils, I welcome it. But bringing parents into class would be totally impractical on a national scale."

## Families fear MoD homes sale

The possible sale of the Armed Forces' married quarters to the Japanese bank Nomura International is causing concern among service families.

The Ministry of Defence wants to sell the 55,000 married quarters and lease back those it needs to house service personnel.

Cherry Milne of the Army Families Federation, said: "If selling to a Japanese bank is considered to be in the interests of service families, I am extremely alarmed."

## Silcott appeal

Winston Silcott, whose conviction of murdering PC Keith Blakelock was quashed, has lost his attempt at the Court of Appeal to overturn a court decision that blocked part of his claim for damages against the Metropolitan Police, alleging two officers fabricated interview evidence.

## WPC loses case

Teresa Taylor, a 26-year-old former policewoman, had her damages claim for sex discrimination against the Nottinghamshire force rejected by an industrial tribunal. She had alleged that her ex-lover, a serving officer, was a member of an illegal Nazi group and had beaten her up.

## Tube attack

A bank security guard who attacked an Underground official when his train was delayed has been jailed for two years by Southwark Crown Court. Robert O'Brien, 42, of Ladbroke Grove, west London, punched his victim so hard he was lifted off the ground and thrown six feet.

## Graduate jailed

A graduate of Balliol College, Oxford, was jailed for three months by city magistrates for obscene telephone calls to women students. Geoffrey Connell-O'Brien, 47, who lives in the city, read *The Complete Works of Shakespeare* as he sat in the dock. He is to appeal against sentence.

## Amis divorce

The 12-year marriage of the writer Martin Amis and Antonia Phillips has ended with an uncontested divorce in London. The couple, who did not attend the hearing, have two children. Ms Phillips had sued for divorce on the basis that they had lived apart for more than two years.

Sadler's 61 staff lottery

Mother of all-night after party

Woman murdered

A divorced mother who was murdered by her ex-husband's new partner while he was in prison

Jobbins got ten years community service

BY DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

**Michael Coghlan, a stage door attendant, faces redundancy. "We thought redevelopment was a good idea"**

company announced that would tour for six months of the year.

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Arts page 1

Arts, page 15

**By Gillian Bowditch, Scotland Correspondent**

**BY LIN JENKINS**

**Jobbins got ten years for attempted murder, Scorrer community service for conspiracy to assault Mr Brain**

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Frances Gibb assesses how changes at the top of the judiciary might affect the legal system's future

## New Chief Justice tipped to continue overhaul of courts

THE new Lord Chief Justice, Sir Thomas "Tom" Bingham, breaks new ground as the country's top criminal judge in hailing from the civil and commercial courts rather than from the criminal justice system he now comes to defend.

Sir Thomas, a radical moderniser who backs many of Lord Mackay of Clashfern's reforms of the legal system, takes over on June 4. His appointment stirred some nervousness yesterday among the profession's rank and file. Some see him as removed from their everyday concerns.

Previous holders of the post have been entrenched in the traditions of criminal practice. Sir Thomas's experience is confined to five years as a recorder (part-time judge) and then six years as a High Court judge.

His switch from the apex of the civil justice system, as Master of the Rolls, is seen by many as a prelude to a fresh overhaul of the criminal courts. Highly rated for what Sir Louis Blom-Cooper, QC, has called his "Alpha plus mind", Sir Thomas, 62, is crisp, efficient and unfailingly courteous. His hallmark is rigorous analysis, unclogged by emotional preconceptions.

"We delude ourselves," he memorably said in response to

the Lord Chancellor's proposed shake-up of the legal profession in 1989, "if we suppose there is not a large body of responsible, middle-of-the-road opinion, that regards the legal profession as riddled with anachronistic conventions and privileges."

Lord Donaldson of Lynton, former Master of the Rolls, said: "He's an elegant thinker. His style is very different from Lord Taylor's, who is by origin a circuit judge with criminal experience, while Sir Thomas comes from

**SIR THOMAS BINGHAM**

a commercial and City law background."

Lord Donaldson added: "If people fear he will be removed from their concerns, I think they will be proved wrong."

Sir Thomas, the son of two medical doctors, grew up in Reigate, Surrey. His father was an Ulsterman and Sir Thomas's views — his dislike of over-long speeches, too high costs — are underpinned by a Protestant work ethic.

Chief among reforms he may address are a shake-up of the system by which High Court judges go out on circuit, incorporating the European

Convention on Human Rights into United Kingdom law, as urged by the Labour Party; allowing television cameras as an experiment into Court of Appeal sittings; banishing wigs and introducing full advocacy rights for solicitors; and cutting the cost and delays of the legal system. Cost, he has said, is "a cancer eating at the heart of the administration of justice".

Another area of reform could be his own office of Lord Chief Justice, where he may delegate some of the huge administrative load and daily grind of sentencing appeals to one or more deputies.

At the same time, he may also, like Lord Widgery, one of his predecessors, return to hearing judicial review cases, enabling him to retain a key influence on case law.

His rise has been swift: he was educated at Sedburgh School, where he was head boy, and Balliol College, Oxford, taking a first in modern history in 1956. He served in The Royal Ulster Rifles and the London Irish Rifles, then passed out top in Bar finals in 1959, joining Lord Scarman's liberal chambers, and specialised in commercial work. At 1972 he was made a QC at the age of 38. He became a Crown Court record-



Sir Thomas Bingham, left, the new Lord Chief Justice with a reforming reputation, and Lord Woolf, the outspoken new Master of the Rolls



er in 1975 and a High Court judge in 1980. He went to the Court of Appeal in 1986.

He attracted attention with his report into sanctions busting in 1978, concluding that oil companies had knowingly violated trade sanctions against Rhodesia with the complicity of British civil servants. He chaired a second government inquiry in 1991 with the collapse of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International.

Off duty, Sir Thomas collects modern art and enjoys brisk walks. He and his wife have three grown children.

His wife, Elizabeth, cam-

paigned for the Liberal Democrats in the last election and Sir Thomas himself has said he is not "ideologically or temperamentally attracted to the doctrines or attitudes of the extreme right or extreme left."

But he is considered as more politically "sound" than some other senior judges: he publicly distanced himself, for instance, from Sir Richard Scott's views in his recent arms to Iraq inquiry on public-interest immunity. Nonetheless, as Lord Donaldson said, he is "his own man" who will attack Government if he thinks that justified.

## Promotion for liberal critic of Government

LORD WOOLF will become Master of the Rolls and head of the civil justice system next month despite a reputation as one of the most outspoken critics of government penal policy.

The appointment of a liberal member of the judiciary, a move some people doubted would be made, has been praised as proof that the Government sets aside political considerations when recommending to the Queen who should fill the top judicial posts. But his new post as head of the Court of Appeal's civil division, while second in the judicial hierarchy, carries a lower profile than that of Lord Chief Justice and less political influence.

Many Tory rightwingers single out Lord Woolf, 63, as typifying the current conventional wisdom in the judiciary — soft on sentencing and expansive in the field of judicial review.

He has long been a critic of the Government's penal and criminal justice policy: four years ago he was tipped to become Master of the Rolls, and his views were thought then to have counted against him.

Lord Woolf's 1991 report into the Strangeways riot, recommending that inmates should expect decent minimum standards, including televisions in cells, was seen as a landmark document.

In 1993 there was a furore when he suggested that those who failed to protect their property should be fined — he later explained he had been referring to cars. He also said Britain should consider legal-

ising some or all illegal drugs and control their distribution to stop addicts committing crimes to feed their habits.

It is in his 1993 lecture to the New Assembly of Churches, however, that the origins of the current tension between judiciary and executive can be detected. A few days after Michael Howard's first speech as Home Secretary indicated a change in penal policy, Lord Woolf attacked the new, "get-tough" approach as "short-sighted and irresponsible".

Now, though, his move from the House of Lords could not be more timely: he is just putting the finishing touches to the biggest shake-up of the civil courts for at

least 50 years. As head of the Court of Appeal's civil division, he is superbly placed to see into effect his own series of proposals.

They are aimed at cutting the costs and delays in the civil courts and include turning judges into trial managers who will dictate the pace of litigation; setting strict timetables for trials including the length of lawyers' speeches; and a new fast track for disputes of less than £10,000, with fixed legal costs.

Lord Woolf is also well positioned to oversee the development of the sensitive area of judicial review where he has long championed the rights of the individual against the State.

One observer said: "His great gift is as a communicator. He is very approachable, very intelligent — almost an academic in his approach. He is bold and sweeps aside obstacles when drawing up a blueprint. But he can tend to be a bit in the stratosphere — some might say his ideas don't always meet the test of practicability."

The gentle manner also hides a determination. "He is not as easy-going as he would seem and can get quite angry," the observer added.

Educated at Fettes College, Edinburgh, and University College London, Lord Woolf has three sons. His legal career has been in the field of public law. He was called to the Bar in 1954. In 1974 he was made Treasury junior, the barrister who advises government on civil matters. He sat as a recorder from 1972 to 1979, when he went to the High Court bench. He was promoted to the Court of Appeal in 1986. In 1994 the Lord Chancellor appointed him to carry out a review of the civil justice system.

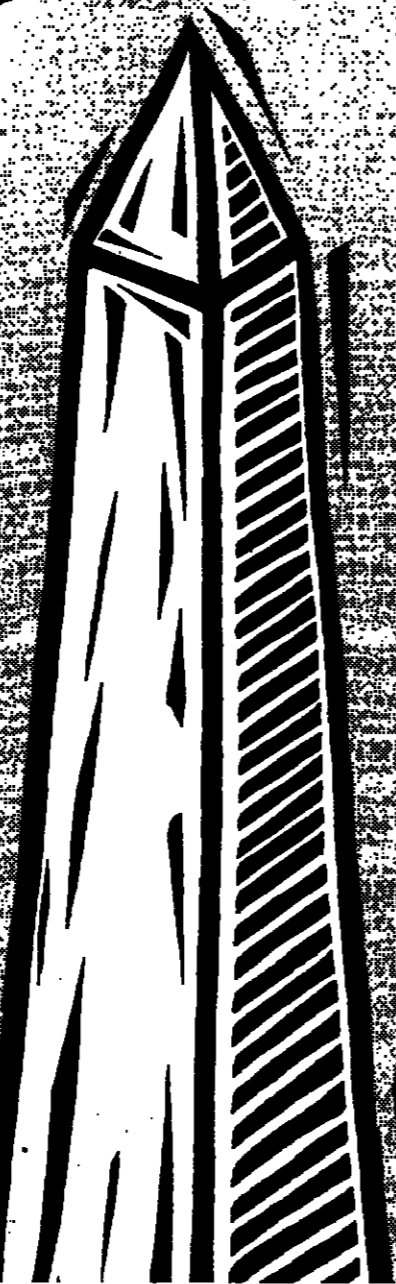
In court he is widely liked by advocates. David Pannick, QC, said: "He encourages people to make their best points and appreciates you don't get the best out of people by shouting at them."

His main impact, though, is now likely to be in the wider sphere of civil justice, from the Court of Appeal down to the small claims court. Civil justice, he says, is "too expensive and too slow".

### LORD WOOLF

Simon Jenkins, page 18  
Leading article, page 19

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By Robin Williams  
A RECORD  
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## Cocktail of toxic chemicals found in back gardens

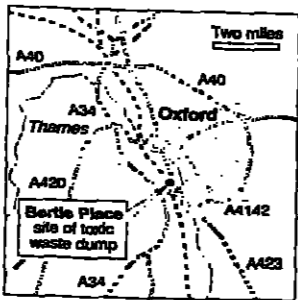
By MICHAEL HORNSBY  
AGRICULTURE  
CORRESPONDENT

ARSENIC, lead and mercury have been found in concentrations up to 16 times the maximum recommended safety level in dozens of back gardens in Oxford.

The 150 residents of 50 houses in New Hinksey are to have health checks and they will probably have to be evacuated while the gardens are dug up and replaced. They have been told not to eat any home-grown vegetables or let their children play with the soil in their gardens, which date from the 1930s.

Housing officials from Oxford City Council found the contamination by chance when they took routine soil samples while investigating subsidence.

The residents of the homes, mostly council houses, in Bertie Place and part of Abingdon Road, were told of the danger in a two-page letter



from the council on Thursday evening. It said they had "probably not been harmed" but recommended health checks and other precautions.

Anne Eudell, 59, who has lived in Bertie Place for 30 years, said: "I am shocked. My husband died of cancer 15 years ago and five other people have died of cancer all in the same street. It seems a bit peculiar." Another resident, Melannie Burnham, has two small children, aged five and three, and is worried for their safety. She said: "We have recently been digging the

garden and the kids have been playing in it. I do not know how I am going to stop them."

Jim Duffy, a retired council worker who has been growing potatoes and cabbages in his back garden in Bertie Place for more than 20 years, said: "I have been eating vegetables from my garden for years. God knows what it has done to me. If they decide to rehouse me it will be too late because the damage will have been done. The whole area used to be a tip before the houses were built and you would have thought they would have tested it properly before letting people live here. It could cause cancer or all sorts of diseases. You just do not know."

Dick Mayon-White, consultant public health physician to the Oxfordshire Health Authority, said: "The trouble with these metals is that they can accumulate so that people build up levels of toxicity in their tissues. Symptoms could include clumsiness, tremors, mental instability and learning difficulties in children. For the moment we do not think it is necessary to move the people concerned."

"They can continue to walk in their gardens and let their pets play there. The position will be reviewed when more tests have been carried out."

Questionnaires are being sent to the residents, asking them to mention any signs of ill-health that might indicate chemical poisoning. In the light of their replies they may be asked to take urine and blood tests.

The affected houses were all built by Oxford City Council in 1933 and officials believe the contamination was introduced in rubble and other fillers used to level the land and raise it above the floodplain of the nearby River Isis.

Colin Eilmore, contract manager for Oxford City Homes, said: "We are carrying out further soil tests. It is likely that we will have to move the residents temporarily while we replace the soil in the front and back gardens. Depending on how much soil we have to take out, we could be looking at an operation costing up to £1 million."



Anne Eudell tends her garden in Bertie Place, Oxford

## Attacker tried to castrate gay vicar

By PAUL WILKINSON

A MAN who tried to castrate a homosexual vicar with his bare hands after luring him to his home was jailed for life yesterday.

John Pennington, 23, told police that he picked up the vicar in a gay nightclub because he wanted to kill a homosexual. At his twelfth-floor flat in Salford, Pennington climbed into bed with his victim then attacked him.

The 50-year-old vicar, referred to in court as Mr X, staggered naked and bleeding down 200 stairs before collapsing. He spent three days in hospital after doctors stitched back his scrotum.

Pennington told police: "He tried to kiss me and I went crazy. I tried to castrate him. I hate queers — they should all be killed. It didn't matter whether it was this man or anyone else — any homo would have done."

Manchester Crown Court was told that Mr X had travelled a long distance from his parish in Scunthorpe to spend a night out with a male friend. Pennington, described by his counsel as having a "grossly disturbed personality", admitted wounding with intent after the prosecution accepted his not guilty plea to attempted murder.

## Freed jackpot winner is back in the fast lane

By LIN JENKINS

LEE RYAN, the lottery jackpot winner whose spending spree was curtailed by an 18-month jail sentence, was free yesterday to enjoy the trappings of wealth.

Released from Stafford jail for five days over the Whitsun holiday, he joined his wife and children in the farmhouse he bought after handing back the keys to his council house. He celebrated his freedom by going for a drive in his red Ferrari Testarossa. He was spoilt for choice: in the garage were a Jaguar, Porsche, BMW, Mitsubishi Shogun and two Ducati motorbikes.

Ryan won £6.5 million on the National Lottery in March last year when he was living on state benefits. In September he was convicted of handling stolen cars at Nottingham Crown Court and sentenced to 18 months. The jury was not told of his win. He

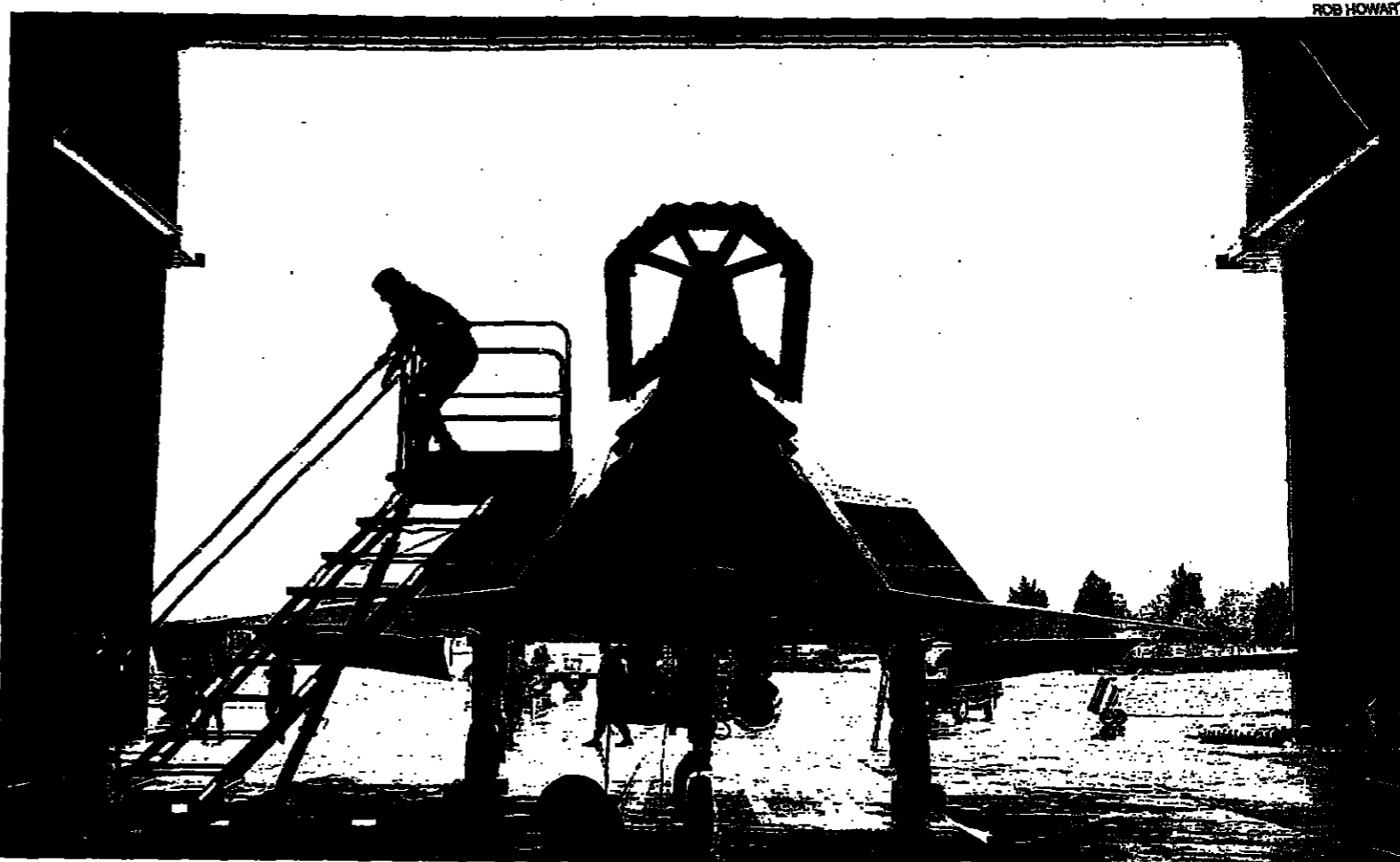
and an accomplice took a Mercedes, Ford Transit van and a BMW to Malta to sell. The vehicles had false number plates and forged documents.

Ryan married the mother of his children Dennis, 14, Nadeyne, 11, and Niall, 6, shortly before the trial but has yet to arrange a honeymoon. He is due to complete his jail term next month.

Karl Crompton, 23, from Blackpool, is celebrating his £11 million win with eight male friends in Hawaii. He paid for the trip, travelling economy class, and has given them each £1,000 to spend.

The draw this weekend could see the 200th million-pound winning ticket. In the past 79 weeks 199 tickets have won £1 million or more as part of the jackpot prize. Camelot estimates that this week the jackpot payout will be about £10 million.

□ Ryan lost an Appeal Court challenge yesterday against costs and compensation orders of £59,000 made against him after his trial. Mr Justice Nelson, announcing the court's decision, said it could well be said that Ryan's good fortune far outweighed those who suffered because of his dishonesty.



America's F117A Nighthawk stealth fighter arriving at RAF Mildenhall, Suffolk, headquarters of the US Third Air Force, for an air show today

## Homes with sprinklers 'must use water meters'

By A STAFF REPORTER

THOUSANDS OF householders who use sprinklers or have swimming pools will be made to have water meters, South West Water announced yesterday.

But the arrangement will depend on such customers voluntarily registering with the company. Other conservation

measures that it announced include fixed-rate pipe repairs to encourage customers to have leaking pipes mended and the opportunity for customers using meters to change to a non-meter tariff when they move house.

Bob Baty, the company's managing director, said: "This range of new measures will help to conserve more

water supplies for the benefit of all our customers. They are additional to the many other steps that we are already taking to enable us to collect extra water for storage and conserve existing water stocks."

In particular, we are getting increasing benefit from making better use of local rivers and by reducing at a faster rate the amount of water leaking

from old water mains. Our continuing work to improve the amount of water available to customers following last year's exceptional summer is progressing very well."

Mr Baty said that no extension was necessary yet to hosepipe restrictions in parts of North Devon, but it was likely that they would have to be extended eventually.



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UNITED AIRLINES

## Crossword finalists go one up

By ROBIN YOUNG

A RECORD number of minds will today make a concerted effort to solve a series of Times crosswords in the London regional final of the newspaper's annual competition.

In previous years the London final has been staged in two parts, but this year it is one event. In addition, for the first time there is a doubles title to be won, as well as the individual championship.

The result is the largest entry recorded in the 27 years of the competition. Six hundred competitors have qualified as individuals and another 100 pairs are entered

for the doubles at the Royal Lancaster Hotel. Proceedings start at 2pm.

Each competitor will receive a complementary miniature from the competition's sponsors, Aberlour Single Highland Malt Whisky, in recognition of the record entry.

Roy Dean, from Bromley in southeast London, the officially recognised world record holder for completing a puzzle in the quickest time, will once again be among the competitors. To break his record, someone is going to have to do better than 3 minutes 45 seconds.

That it can be done was

shown some years ago by Paul Henderson, one of The Times's crossword compilers, who completed a puzzle while sitting in the audience in less than 2½ minutes. However, he was not under investigation at the time and his record could not be ratified.

Only one entrant from every 60 taking part goes forward to the national final, to be staged in London on October 5. To win through, competitors will probably have to complete all their four puzzles in an average time of under 10 minutes.

There is one remaining regional final, which will take place in Birmingham on July 7.

# Carey warns the West against discounting risk of conflict with Islam

By Ruth Gledhill, Religion Correspondent

THE West has too readily discounted the possibility of conflict with Islam, the Archbishop of Canterbury said last night.

Dr George Carey said the role of religion in conflict and the part various faiths could play in helping to prevent and resolve it must be taken more seriously. Speaking in Los Angeles, he said it was essential for the West to develop a deeper understanding of the religions and philosophies of other civilisations if world peace was to be secured. Commenting on the suggestion that conflict between Islam and the West was likely, he said: "That thesis has been rigorously examined and, in my view, too quickly discounted in the West."

He was "saddened" to discover that when murder and violence was perpetrated by fundamentalists in the name of religion, "few leaders in such communities condemn the atrocities".

The proposition that conflict between Islam and the West was probable, a thesis advanced by Samuel Huntington of Harvard University, was dismissed by some as alarmist, while others argued that the worst conflicts were within and not between

civilisations, the Archbishop said. Others thought a suggestion that the West's next confrontation would be with the Muslim world was "too politically incorrect" to merit discussion, he said.

But Dr Carey, condemning all extremism which ended in murder and violence, said he would "own up quite fairly" to the part religion had played in perpetrating cruelty, wars, violence, bloodshed and evil.

He said that unlike secular creeds such as Nazism and communism, which had led also to violent atrocities, religion was by no means dead. "Indeed it is awesomely present wherever we look in the world, not least those areas of the world where violence, terror and war continue to plague the human race. If we consider our own communities, we find lurking there some of the ingredients for potential religious conflict, misunderstanding and intolerance."

Dr Carey, addressing the Los Angeles World Affairs Council on a nine-day visit to Bermuda, Chicago and Los Angeles, condemned those who "hide behind religious faith to justify acts of terrorism". He said extremists, wheth-

er in Egypt, Israel or Northern Ireland, should not be allowed refuge in religious faith. "We must make it clear that true religion does not justify such behaviour," he said.

While Dr Carey, who meets British Muslim leaders at least once a year, does not believe a war between Islam and the West is imminent, his talks with Muslim leaders have alerted him to concern among Christians and Muslims about the difficulties they face in working together.

Dr Carey told the council: "Almost every week we are subjected to scenes of horror on television when unspeakable atrocities are done in the name of religion. There can be no justification from any religious tradition for such intolerance and fanaticism."

He urged all faiths to "transcend the negative and destructive features of religion and culture which have done so much damage to our world". While mainstream faiths had tolerance of differences written into their codes, "terrible things continue to be done in the name of religion, a fact which shames religion".

Prayers Please, Weekend, page 15



Sarah Menzies putting the finishing touches to a cake commissioned to celebrate Norwich Cathedral's 900th anniversary today. The confection took 180 hours to make

## Credo

### A neglected story that should fill hearts with hope

Why is it that Pentecost, compared with Christmas and Easter, really fails to capture the popular imagination — and perhaps even the imagination of church people too? A simple explanation might be that Pentecost lacks that sentimental tinge of childhood associations with presents and chocolate. But maybe there is something more to it than that. Is it that the drama of Christmas and Easter seems so much greater than the drama of Pentecost? At Christmas, the Church tells the story of God becoming man in Jesus Christ. At Easter it tells the story of Jesus rising from the grave. Now

between God and mankind on the day of Pentecost is no less a miracle than those of Easter or Christmas.

Dry bones cannot, of themselves, stand upon their feet and live. A people turned away from God cannot, of themselves, become a living community, in which "all who believed were together and had all things in common". Only by the breath of God can this occur. And what occurs

between God and mankind on the day of Pentecost is no less a miracle than those of Easter or Christmas.

mas, Christmas speaks of a life "conceived by the Holy Spirit", a life which is not humanly speaking, a possibility. Easter speaks of life from the grave, of a resurrection which is not, humanly speaking, a possibility.

Pentecost speaks of both. of this new life, conceived by the Holy Spirit, as a very resurrection of the dry bones of Israel. But it is not just that on the day of Pentecost, God acted in a way that is properly to be likened to his actions on Christmas and Easter Day. It is rather that God's single act of redemption, begun in Bethlehem and proclaimed by the one who met the disciples from his tomb, at last bears its fruit among humankind.

Pentecost is the great dawning of what Christmas and Easter Day promised, the day on which those who are dead to God are conceived by the Holy Spirit and raised to a new and miraculous life. And this surely, in a world of dry bones, is a story not only to capture our imaginations, but more especially to fill our hearts with hope.

□ The Rev Michael Banner is Professor of Moral and Social Theology at King's College London

Leading article, page 19

GET A LIFE

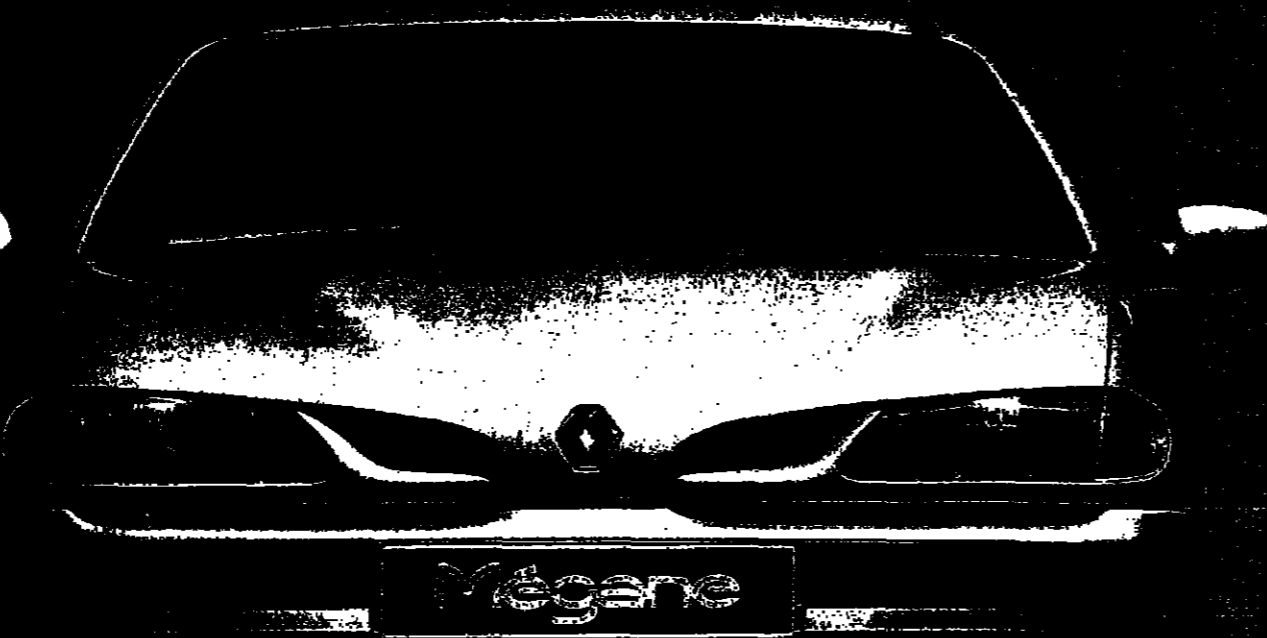
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تكملة من الأصل

# Gunman obsessed by Hungerford shot 17 bystanders

By PAUL WILKINSON

A MENTALLY ill man obsessed with the Hungerford massacre visited the Berkshire town before returning to his Tyneside home and shooting 17 people in 20 minutes, a court was told yesterday.

Robert Sartin killed one person and wounded 16 others, some seriously, on a Sunday morning in West Monkseaton. Eventually, an unarmed policeman persuaded him to surrender.

Sartin, who was a 23-year-old civil servant living with his parents in the town at the time of the attack in April 1989, has been detained in Ashworth high-security hospital in Liverpool ever since. In 1990 a jury decided that his schizophrenia was so severe he could not answer any charge.

Yesterday at Durham Crown Court a judge ordered Sartin to be detained indefinitely under the Mental Health Act. On the ground of insanity, he had formally denied murdering Kenneth Mackintosh, 41, a BT manager, and 16 counts of attempted murder. He was detained without any formal finding of guilt. Mr Justice Ian Kennedy told Sartin: "This tragedy came about because you were, and remain, a gravely ill man."

Marion Swan, a consultant psychiatrist who had been treating Sartin for three years before the shootings, said afterwards that he had been influenced by the *Halloween* movies and had visited

Hungerford, where Michael Ryan shot dead 16 people in 1987. Sartin was also obsessed by the occult and was hearing voices. "This was an extremely acute and severe case. He says it was a short period of absolute insanity. He has attempted to take his own life."

"Until then he had been at work, had a girlfriend and attended family social occasions. That morning, he seemed the same as usual."

Sartin, dressed in black and with a bandolier of cartridges over his shoulder, had wandered through the streets with his father's 12-bore, shooting at anyone he saw. His first target was Judith Rhodes, shot through her car windscreen. In the next street he hit five more people, including Mr Mackintosh, who was returning home from church. David Robson, QC, for the prosecution, said: "Sartin discharged

two barrels at him from 20 yards. Sartin walked up to where he lay and fired two more cartridges into him, killing him instantly."

He fired at two more people before shooting Brian Thoms. Mr Robson said: "Mr Thoms saw the gun and said to Sartin 'Don't be so stupid, son'. He fired two shots at him."

Sartin continued to walk the streets and fired at other people, including three members of the same family, Peter Robert Burgon, his wife Jean and their daughter Nicola. His last victim was Jean Millar, shot as she worked in her garden. After this he went back to his car and drove away towards the seaford."

There he was confronted by PC Danny Herdman. The officer, now a sergeant in Berwick, has been given the Queen's Award for Gallantry.

Mr Robson told the court that the Crown had been advised regularly by psychiatrists over the past seven years. Only now was Sartin considered well enough to appear.

James Chadwin, QC, for Sartin, said he should return to hospital. He read a letter from Sartin apologising for what he had done and saying it had been "completely the product of a mental illness so severe that reality was taken over by insanity."

Afterwards, Sartin's parents issued a statement expressing sympathy to the Mackintosh family and the other victims.



Sartin carried out his attack in 20 minutes



Pupils at Portsmouth High School reaping the benefits of tuition in music, which is proving to have more far-reaching advantages

## Power of music extends across curriculum

By NIGEL HAWKES  
SCIENCE EDITOR

MUSIC has the power to improve learning in reading and mathematics. American researchers have shown.

Martin Gardiner and colleagues from the Music School in Providence, Rhode Island, introduced children aged between five and seven to an arts programme that included music. A total of 96 children in eight classes were given the enhanced arts programme, while two other classes served as controls. Their work supports a Swiss study which showed that children taught extra music learnt languages more quickly, and were no worse at mathematics despite spending less time learning it.

The American team launched the study after reading a report that listening to Mozart can increase intelligence. Two years ago, a team from the University of California showed that college students exposed to Mozart's sonata for two pianos in D major performed better on standard psychological tests than those who had heard a ten-minute tape of instructions on how to relax, or ten

minutes of silence. However, these improvements were temporary. To see if exposure to the arts could produce a more permanent change, the Rhode Island team compared the performance of the children in the arts programme with those given a normal curriculum.

They did so by measuring their improvements in reading and mathematics. They report in *Nature* that, although the children in the arts programmes lagged at the start of the project, by the end they had caught up in reading skills and were ahead in mathematics, where 77 per cent of those taught extra music and art were at the national average or above, against 55 per cent in the control classes. Classroom attitudes also showed a big improvement. "Learning arts skills forces mental 'stretching' useful to other areas of learning," the researchers conclude.

Although music is compulsory in state schools up to the age of 14, only about one teenager in 15 goes on to take GCSE in the subject. Instrumental tuition has been declining throughout the state system, particularly since schools became responsible for their own budgets.

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### TRUMPET CLOSE-UP MAY CURE LIP STRAIN

SURGEONS are searching for a cure for trumpet's lip, a condition that affects thousands of musicians every year. Brass players lose the ability to hit high or sustained notes of play for long periods because of muscular changes in their lips.

By fixing a tiny camera inside a

trumpet, experts at the Performing Arts Medical Clinic at the Royal United Hospital, Bath, have been able to record every detail of a performer's lips and hope to be able to prescribe ways of strengthening them. Richard Canter, consultant surgeon, said they were optimistic of success.

## Noise of army fire carries to Dunblane gravesides

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

PARENTS bereaved by the Dunblane massacre have complained of hearing gunfire from a nearby army range when they visit their children's graves.

They want the Ministry of

Defence to close Whiteman Range, which is a quarter of a mile from the town's cemetery, where several of Thomas Hamilton's victims are buried.

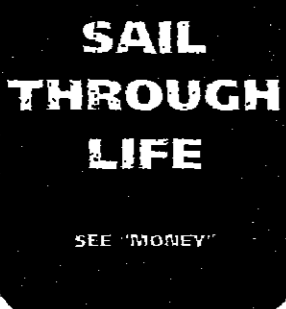
The Territorial Army, the police and civilian gun clubs use the firing range, and Hamilton practised there before shooting 28 pupils and three teachers at the primary school in March. Sixteen children and a teacher died.

Arthur Ironside, a councillor, said the bereaved families were shocked to find that gunshots could be heard at the cemetery. The MoD has so far refused requests to close the range permanently, but has agreed to shut it for the duration of the Cullen inquiry into the massacre, which starts on Wednesday. Stirling Rifle and Gun Club, of which

Hamilton was a member, has not used the range since the killings.

An MoD spokeswoman said: "It's a very sensitive matter and the Army is aware of this. We did stop using the range in the immediate aftermath of Dunblane for about a month as a mark of respect but there have been two or three bookings since."

The inquiry, held in Stirling, is expected to last eight weeks. Lord Cullen has met the victims' families to try to ease their fears about evidence that will be given to the public hearings. He has assured them that there will be no need to call witness after witness to describe the harrowing scene inside the school. There will be no evidence from the children who survived.



**BOOK OFFER**

## At a Service Near You

Ruth Gledhill, religious affairs correspondent of *The Times*, visited nearly 200 places of worship for the series in Weekend, *At a Service*, and this book is a collection of 63 of those engaging articles.

Not quite the ecclesiastical equivalent of *The Good Pub Guide*, but Gledhill does assess the quality of the leadership, architecture, sermon, music, liturgy, after-service care and spiritual high at the churches she visits.

She describes the atmosphere, the sort of people who attend, the style of the worship, the quality of preaching and anything that particularly strikes her, even the coffee.

As the daughter of an Anglican clergyman, Gledhill has been attending church regularly since childhood and the experience of visiting so many has had an impact on her own faith.

"I began the series as a churchgoing Anglican with fairly traditionalist views," she says. "The experience has made me more liberal in belief and more open to evangelical styles of worship, in particular the joy and movement that comes with some of the best spiritual songs."

Ruth believes churches are more than places of worship. They are also community centres in a world where neighbourhood communities are vanishing. They provide an oasis of peace in a noisy environment. The best churches preach faith as the foundation for true healing and happiness and impart to her the sense of God's presence.

At *a Service Near You* makes enjoyable reading. Anyone who wants to find out about a church in an area they are visiting, or simply curious about local churches, will find it extremely helpful.

Readers can get a copy of *At a Service Near You: British Churches - The Good, the Bad and the Ugly* for only £6.49 (normal price £7.99) including postage and packing and with an inserted book plate signed by the author.

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هكذا منة الاجل

Outnumbered rebels and Russian troops ready for peace as conflict enters second summer

## Chechen leaders give Yeltsin chance for election coup

IT WAS an unlikely setting for a truly dramatic announcement, but after 17 months of war President Yeltsin was to hold the first face-to-face meeting with the leader of the Chechen separatist rebels.

Aslan Maskhadov, the Chechen commander-in-chief who is also the strategic planner of the resistance movement, was in the middle of a beech wood in south-eastern Chechnya. Sitting on a tree trunk in grey camouflage fatigues, he blended into the pastoral setting. Cuckoos sounded through the woods as he talked to *The Times* and three other European correspondents. Only a few mean-looking guards with Kalashnikovs guarded the tranquillity.

Colonel Maskhadov, a former Soviet artillery officer, announced that Zelimkhan Yandartiyev, the new Chechen President, would meet Mr Yeltsin in the Kremlin on Monday. This is a meeting his predecessor, Dzhokhar Dudayev, sought for four years but never obtained.

The Chechen leadership gave the go-ahead for the talks after a two-day meeting near the ancient village of Vedeno, the mountain stronghold of



Among the tranquil beech woods in Alleroi, Chechnya, the separatists' new commander talks to *Thomas de Waal* about the onset of war weariness

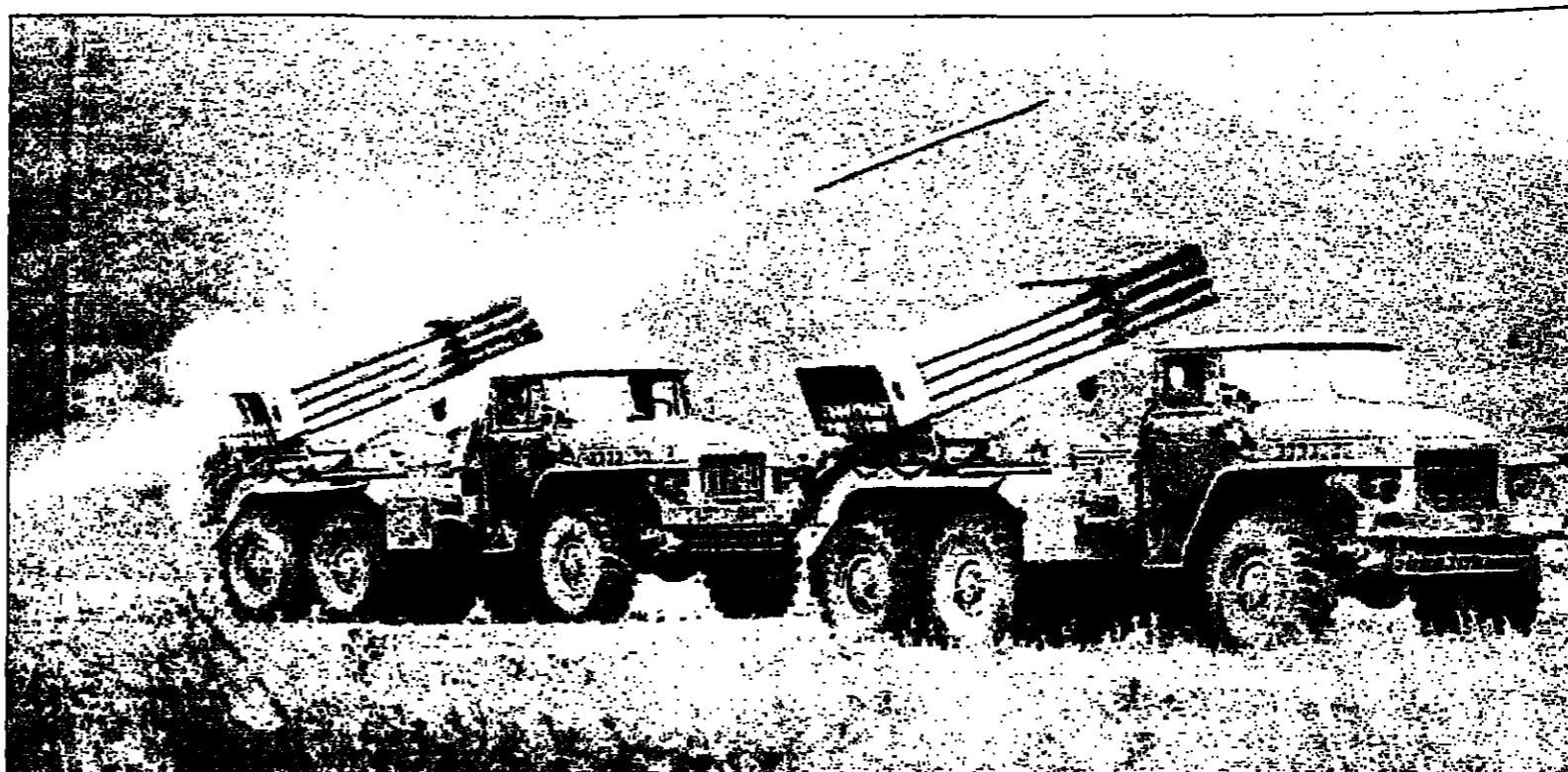
Imam Shamil, the famous warrior of the Caucasian wars. "Of course we are afraid," Colonel Maskhadov said of a meeting that is politically risky for both sides. But he said the will for peace on both sides was very strong as the war entered its second summer. The issue of Chechnya's declaration of independence, which triggered the war, would be "left to one side" and the talks would focus on ending the fighting.

The reasons for war weariness are not hard to find. The tiny Chechen guerrilla army is still fighting on, but is vastly outnumbered and they know they cannot win a military victory. The Chechen leaders admit this more openly now that their first leader General Dudayev, who vowed to fight "to the last Chechen", is dead.

The Russians are also losing a war in which the Chechen partisans are everywhere and

anywhere. They have suffered heavy losses in the past three months, fighting hard to capture positions only to withdraw and see them recaptured days later. The fighters are as mobile as ever. Driving for two hours right across eastern Chechnya, we did not encounter a single Russian checkpoint. "They are coming down from the hills and leaving," Colonel Maskhadov said of the Russian forces.

The Russians have also carried out soundings and confirmed that the new Chechen leadership is holding together and cannot be split apart. At the Vedeno meeting all the field commanders, including the legendary Shamil Basayev who led the bloody raid on the town of Budennovsk last year, endorsed the new peace plan. "We have a more united, more collective leadership now," said Rashid, a young com-



Russian Grad missile launchers shell Bamut in Chechnya on Thursday as both sides prepare for Monday's Kremlin peace negotiations

mander. The only conditions the Chechens are insisting on are that President Yeltsin declares he had no part in the death of General Dudayev on April 21 and promises not to stage any more assassination attempts on Chechen leaders.

In return, Colonel Maskhadov guarantees to put a freeze on plans for terrorist operations, such as the one at Budennovsk. "We are still not touching Russia's most painful spot by conducting another

kind of war inside Russia," he said. "We are trying to restrain the people who are preparing this."

Here is the most curious part of the scheme, because by agreeing to talks the Chechen rebels are effectively endorsing President Yeltsin for re-election on June 16.

Colonel Maskhadov said his fighters had rebuffed ten attacks on the village of Bamut, which the Russians have tried to capture for more than 16 months. The former

missile base no longer had any "strategic value", he said, but it was an "inspiration" to his fighters. Yet he was ready to withdraw from it at any time.

It was hard not to see that Colonel Maskhadov and his plan could have a decisive influence on Mr Yeltsin's chances of re-election. The grey-haired commander in the woods laughed at our last question. Could he give Bamut to President Yeltsin as a "present", to boost the peace process? "I can," he said.

## Fighting 'stepped up'

Moscow: Russian artillery was yesterday reported to be battering the Chechen stronghold of Bamut. Witnesses described the fighting as some of the worst in the region for weeks, with Chechen rebels holed up in a disused Soviet nuclear launch site.

However, General Mikhail Kolesnikov, Russia's Chief of Staff, claimed that troops had seized the village, which has

been holding out against Russian forces for more than a year.

"This is the final major special operation in Chechnya," General Kolesnikov told parliament. "The enemy has understood the pointlessness of open conflict with federal forces." He said the rebel strategy had switched to terrorist action by small groups. (Reuters)

## Pollsters see Zyuganov falling at second hurdle

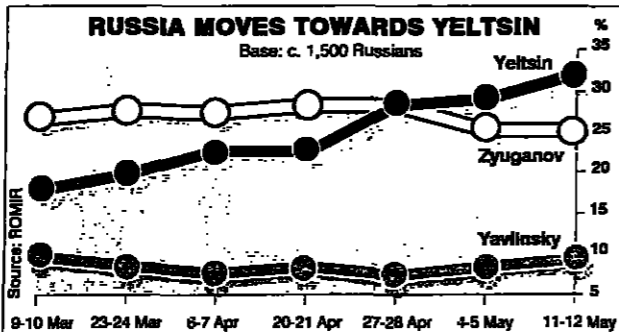
By ROBERT WORCESTER

IN THREE weeks' time Russian history will be made, for a President will be elected in a free democratic election. As the poll heads towards its June 16 finale, at least for the first round, it would appear that President Yeltsin is headed for victory.

Tracking polls conducted by the respected Romir organisation, used by MORI and the United States Information Agency (USIA) among others, show that, after a faltering start with many "don't knows", sentiment is moving towards the sometimes ill, often erratic Mr Yeltsin.

The latest poll, concluded last week and released in Moscow on Monday, showed him moving into a seven-point lead over the Communist candidate, Gennadi Zyuganov, 51, whose manifesto pledges jobs for all, higher wages and pensions, compensation for those who have lost their savings due to inflation, enforced law and order, protection against imports and higher defence spending. These pledges notwithstanding, and with Mr Yeltsin's satisfaction rating at 16 per cent below John Major's, Mr Yeltsin is still pulling ahead and Mr Zyuganov seems to have peaked.

In all, there are 11 candidates, including Mikhail Gorbachev, who obtained only one vote in a hundred in the poll. In third place was Gligori Yavlinsky, an econo-



mist and head of the liberal Yabloko party, with under 10 per cent. Since the start of the campaign, the "others" and the "don't knows" have fallen from about half to a third of the electorate. 85 per cent of whom say they will vote.

If one candidate does not

**6 Russian sentiment is moving towards the sometimes ill, often erratic, Mr Yeltsin**

receive a majority on June 16, the contest goes to a second round. Under those conditions, Mr Yeltsin now leads Mr Zyuganov by ten points.

A recent *New York Times* article, by Michael Specter, about the state of Russian polling raised eyebrows at last week's World Association of Public Opinion Research, meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah. In it he quoted sceptics querying the accuracy of Russian polling, yet described them as both influential and popular. Yelena Bashkurova, director of Romir, was scathing about his article, pointing out that he had some of his facts wrong and had contradicted himself. Her paper at the conference pointed out the strong dependence on the traditions of the Russians, who have a lack of patience and a desire to see problems

solved "immediately" and "completely".

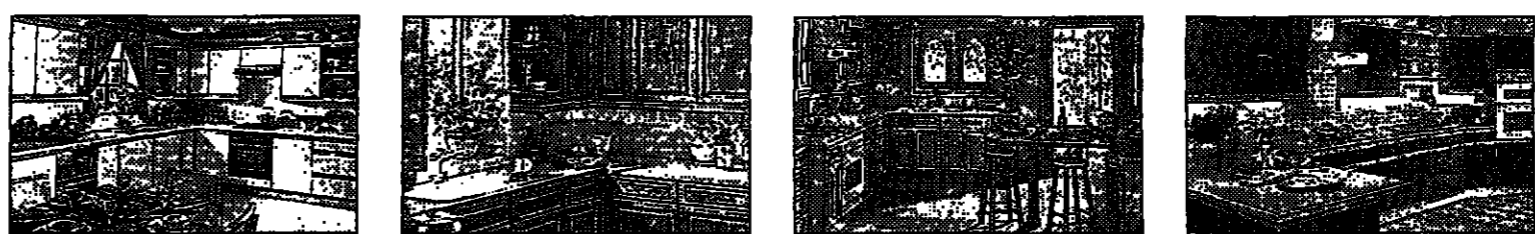
She believes that the democratic achievements in recent years make a totalitarian restoration impossible, despite widespread dissatisfaction with the current economic conditions of the country.

There are many polling firms now operating in Russia. Another paper at the conference, by USIA's Richard Dobson, reported that, bad as the mood of the nation is, it has improved since last year when the war in Chechnya was entering its fifth month; at that time a USIA-sponsored poll found that more than three-quarters of Russians thought that things were going in the wrong direction. The war grinds on, but there has been an improvement, with now two-thirds saying things are going wrong.

According to him, the pollsters tended to underestimate the Communists' support: if this should happen on June 16, it would cause a closer first-round result and almost certainly a run-off.

Another respected firm, VCIOM, the Russian Centre for Public Opinion and Market Research, asked in its poll who the Russians thought would win. In February, Mr Yeltsin and Mr Zyuganov each received a fifth of the votes; in April, however, Mr Yeltsin received twice the vote of Mr Zyuganov. My guess, at this point, is that Mr Yeltsin will win, on the second round.

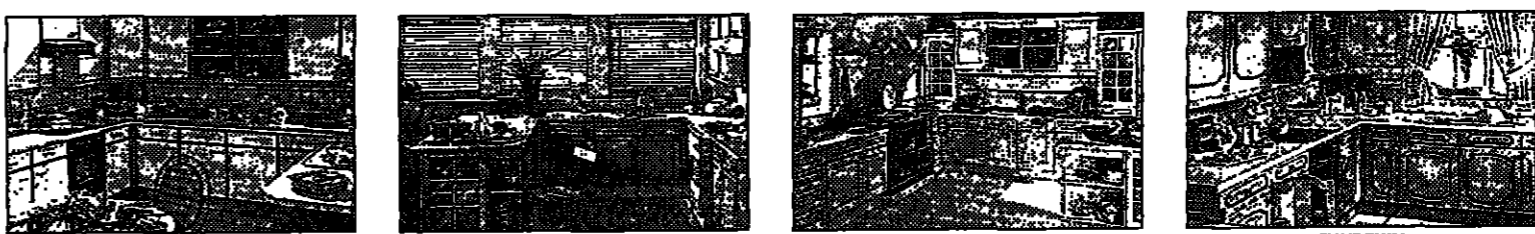
Professor Robert Worcester is chairman of MORI.



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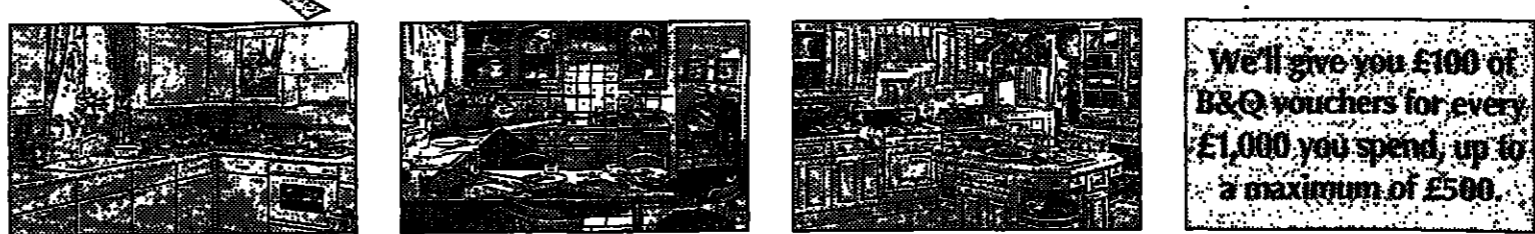
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# Major pushes for war crimes trial of Serb chieftains

By STACY SULLIVAN IN SARAJEVO AND MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

JOHN MAJOR visited Bosnia yesterday to gauge the success of the Dayton peace accord, which ended four years of war, and to bolster the morale of British troops serving as part of the Nato-led peace implementation force (Ifor).

His one-day trip, which included meetings with opposition Bosnian Serb leaders in Banja Luka, made him the first Western leader to visit the Bosnian Serb republic. In Sarajevo, he met President Izetbegovic of Bosnia.

But Mr Major did not travel to Pale, the "capital" of the hardline Bosnian Serb Government, and reaffirmed his support that Bosnian Serb leaders such as Radovan Karadzic and General Ratko Mladic, both indicted for war crimes, should be handed over to the United Nations tribunal in The Hague. "I wouldn't be content for them to just fade away," he said, referring to criticism that the West was

willing to accept that they just step down from power.

The visit to Banja Luka, where British troops recently moved their headquarters, coincided with an attempt by international mediators to create an urban power base in the Serb republic and isolate the Bosnian Serb leadership. They hoped that Mr Major's meetings with local politicians, including the moderate Rajko Kasagic, who was removed from power by Dr Karadzic last week, would propel them to take a stand against the hardline leadership.

Speaking to troops at the British base in Sipovo, the Prime Minister said he believed no other nation had made as great a contribution to peace in Bosnia as Britain.

"On every occasion I have been here, I have been struck by the sheer scale of the contribution you have made here," he said. Mr Major was cheered by dozens of local

residents as he took an impromptu walk through the town, and trailed by an enthusiastic crowd of children.

He concluded his visit by meeting President Izetbegovic in Sarajevo, where he reaffirmed his support for the territorial integrity of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Earlier Michael Portillo, the Defence Secretary, said in a radio interview that indicted war criminals in the former Yugoslavia will not be allowed to escape justice. He said: "These war criminals must be brought to justice and they will be. The international community will not forget about these people. They will never have another quiet day in their lives because one day there will be a knock at the door."

Speaking on BBC Radio's Today programme, he said: "There will never be a full peace in Bosnia until people who have committed atrocities are brought to justice."



John Major meets British troops at their new headquarters in Banja Luka in Bosnian Serb territory yesterday

## Hamas is urged to rein in bombers

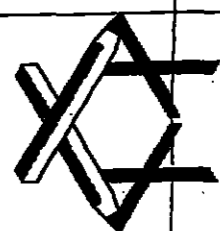
FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

ISLAMIC suicide bombers were under growing Palestinian pressure yesterday to halt their campaign before Wednesday's Israeli election, thus boosting the chances of Shimon Peres, the Prime Minister. The Labour candidate is only just ahead of Benjamin Netanyahu, the right-wing Likud leader, in the opinion polls.

The poll, which could decide the future of the Middle East peace process, has provoked a split within Hamas, the Islamic Resistance Movement; leaders in the West Bank and Gaza Strip oppose more bombing, while their counterparts in Muslim countries abroad are calling for continued attacks.

Israel will be deploying an unprecedented force of 20,000 soldiers and police to try to prevent the kind of attack against a Jewish target that most independent political analysts are convinced could reverse Mr Peres's slender lead.

Labour's hopes were boosted by reports last night from an unnamed Hamas official that the jailed spiritual leader



ISRAELI ELECTION

## Lollipop lady held over drugs

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

A PRIMARY school lollipop lady has been arrested and charged with selling heroin which was packaged to look like sweets.

Amariles Martinez had 20 bags of heroin under her uniform when she was arrested by undercover police. Moments earlier she had been helping six-year-olds to cross a busy road in Brooklyn, New York.

Ms Martinez, who has been charged with criminal possession of a controlled substance within 1,000ft of a school, shouted "I wasn't selling to kids", as she was led away. The heroin was wrapped in brightly coloured paper made to look like the packaging for a popular children's chew called Now and Later.

An undercover detective on routine surveillance duty said he saw Ms Martinez approached by a suspicious-looking man who gave her a parcel. Astonished, the detective wandered up to Ms Martinez and, pretending to be an addict, asked if she knew where he could get drugs. She directed him to a local pizza parlour where a dealer was later arrested.

Sgt George O'Brien of the local anti-narcotics squad said: "It's a good feeling to get these guys."

of the organisation, Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, had told visitors on Wednesday that he would urge supporters to suspend attacks against Israel before the elections. However, only a few months ago pledges of a ceasefire from Hamas members were followed by four suicide-bomb attacks in which more than 60 people were killed.

Last Saturday, Ibrahim Ghoseh, the Hamas spokesman in Jordan, added to the confusion by stating that the group's real position was to call for more attacks against Israel.

Hamas activists in the Gaza Strip and West Bank, the main recruiting ground for suicide bombers, estimate that up to 80 per cent of supporters favour a temporary suspension of armed attacks, at least until after the election has been held.

□ Holiday riots: Ultra-Orthodox Jews returning from prayers for the Jewish Shavuot holiday at Jerusalem's Wailing Wall rioted in Arab areas of the city yesterday smashing cars and overturning grocery stalls. (AP)

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## EXECUTIVE VOICE 24

John Bridgeman  
on merits of  
competition

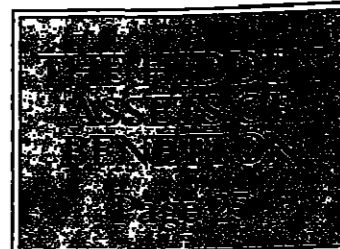
Monday  
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## WORKING WEEK 24

Host in tune  
for a night  
to remember

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Athletics thrown  
by Sanderson's  
distant ambitions



# THE TIMES

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BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

SATURDAY MAY 25 1996

## Wise man Minford to advise 'pyramid scam'

By ROBERT MILLER

PATRICK MINFORD, one of Britain's most respected economists and a member of the Treasury's inner circle of six "wise men", has been retained to advise on the reorganisation of an international money-making scheme described in Parliament as "an iniquitous pyramid selling scam".

Professor Minford yesterday confirmed that the Titan Business Club and its associate companies in the UK had retained his services on a consultancy basis to advise on the reorganisation of the scheme, which originates in Germany. This week, in the High Court, the Department of

Trade and Industry began moves to close the operation down.

Professor Minford said: "I'm basically doing some consultancy work in return for a fee to help to advise on the restructuring of Titan prior to a flotation on the Nasdaq stock market in the US." The new company will be known as Titan Incorporated.

Senior DTI officials last night expressed serious reservations about the Titan operation. They are concerned that the inflow of money might slow to a trickle or stop altogether as members, who are recruited at packed meetings around the country often attended by more than 1,000 people, sign up. In that event, DTI sources

say that people could lose not just their own money but that they may also have persuaded friends and relatives to sign up as well.

Until this week, the Titan Business Club charged a joining fee of £2,500 which is refunded once the member signs up a further four people. Under Titan Inc rules, the joining fee will be raised to £3,000.

Charles Buckley, the lawyer acting for Titan, said: "The money will go in commission to recruiters and to management and to the research and development facility. This will be ring-fenced by an international committee of blue chip members who will vet and award grants to applicants for new

inventions. The new company will sell its own shares and people will be able to trade them on Nasdaq."

Mr Buckley, who has retained the services of four leading QCs to fight the DTI case against Titan, due to be heard on June 10, said that in spite of the adverse publicity surrounding the scheme, about 9,000 people had attended meetings this week. He added that since last October up to 8,000 people had signed up, bringing the money raised to about £20 million.

In the High Court, Sir Richard Scott, the Vice-Chancellor, said this week that he was not yet satisfied that the Titan scheme should be classified

illegal as the DTI has requested but that "public interest might require it to be stopped... the people who are being invited to participate are all adults and are at liberty to make foolish or wise use of their money."

In a Parliamentary debate last month, David Rendel, Liberal Democrat MP for Newbury, raised concerns about the Titan scheme calling it "an iniquitous pyramid selling scam". He said yesterday: "I am very concerned that the public fully understands the Titan operation so that they know what they are doing before they let themselves in for considerable expense which they may not be able to recover."

## WEEKEND MONEY



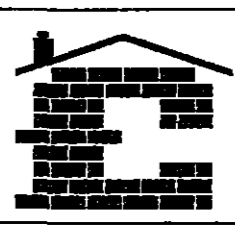
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Anne Ashworth  
on the silence of  
the life companies

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Life is getting  
cheaper. Another  
Virgin debut



## HSBC attacked over bonuses

By OLIVER AUGUST

AN INCENTIVE scheme that could earn directors of HSBC Holdings, parent company of Midland Bank, a total of up to £16 million has come under fire from institutional investors.

Pensions and Investment Research Consultants (PIRC) claims that the HSBC scheme is the most excessive it has so far encountered, and is urging investors to vote it down at the company's annual meeting next week. PIRC contends the scheme is particularly contentious for "rewarding mediocre performance".

Anne Simpson, a PIRC director, said: "We are looking for incentive schemes which align the interests of shareholders and directors, rather than a 'jackpot payout' for perfectly routine and unexceptional performance."

Directors will receive their bonuses if real earnings per share grow by only 2.2 per cent above inflation. PIRC calculated that, on current salaries, £10 million could be awarded to the six directors.

If fringe benefits are taken into account, the sum could be even higher. "If total remuneration is taken as the base, then £16 million could be paid out in total share awards under

this and other existing schemes," Ms Simpson said.

Under the terms of the scheme, HSBC's remuneration committee has complete discretion over the award of shares up to a maximum level.

HSBC yesterday strongly rejected PIRC's criticism. Douglas Flint, group finance director, said: "Their calculations are absolutely absurd. They have taken the maximum amount possible for every variable. But it is not our intention to take the maximum. We are a group founded on strong Scottish principle."

"In the report, the remuneration is also set out for sustained performance over four years, not just on an annual basis. The highest paid director is receiving something in the order of £700,000," he said. "We are just miles away from what they set out. The awards will be no more than half of what we got under the old share options scheme."

Mr Flint added: "This scheme won't commence for another year. Between now and then the remuneration committee has discretion to change the scheme again."

PIRC has written to key shareholders in HSBC urging them to reject the remuneration package at the annual meeting next Friday. The main shareholders are Standard Life, Legal & General and the Prudential.

The Prudential was itself a target of PIRC criticism over directors' pay last week. One of the main opponents of the Prudential's remuneration for directors was Standard Life.

PIRC's action reflects increased investor militancy on aspects of corporate governance, particularly pay. PIRC has in recent weeks launched campaigns against Shell, Incecape and the Prudential.

At least 21 of the top 350 companies have put new incentive schemes to the vote in 1996. According to PIRC, the highest award was a bonus of 125 per cent of directors' pay, compared to 400 per cent calculated for HSBC.

With this backdrop, HSBC can expect a controversial AGM. It is no stranger to these. At the AGM last year of Midland Bank, a subsidiary, a tank arrived to protest against arms sales in which the company was allegedly involved.



Roy Ackerman, right, chairman of Restaurant Partnership, whose eateries include Gay Hussar and L'Etoile in London, has recruited Paul Breach, left, the former president of the Europe and African division of Seagram, as chief executive.

## Hollinger seeks UK listing

By ERIC REGULY

CONRAD BLACK'S Telegraph group, which will disappear from the London Stock Exchange this summer, is to stage a return in another guise.

Hollinger International, the American company that will own all of The Telegraph after its minority shareholders are bought out for £273 million, is seeking a listing on the London exchange and should start trading by the autumn.

Dan Colson, chief executive of The Telegraph, publisher of The Daily Telegraph and its Sunday sister, said yesterday: "A London listing will help provide a broad and diverse shareholder base for our group, and there are a lot of

UK investors who were disappointed when we announced The Telegraph would be privatised."

Hollinger International, based in Chicago, is paying 570p a share for the 36 per cent of The Telegraph that it does not already own. The move comes a year after the failure of the first attempt to buy the minority shares at 470p apiece. A year earlier, Mr Black lost some of his support in the City when he reduced the cover price of The Daily Telegraph, a move which caused Telegraph shares to plummet to 350p, shortly after selling 125 million Telegraph shares to institutions at 587p.

Hollinger International, listed on the New York Stock Exchange, has become the main investment vehicle for Mr Black. Hollinger International is owned 66 per cent by Hollinger Inc of Toronto, which controls Mr Black's collection of Canadian newspapers.

Mr Colson said that The Telegraph group probably will sell its 25 per cent stake in John Fairfax of Australia, owner of The Sydney Morning Herald and The Age, Melbourne, unless the new Government in Canberra eases media ownership to the point that The Telegraph can take control. "We have 25 per cent of the profits and 100 per cent of the aggravation," he said.

Ernest Fenton, director-general of the Association of Investment Trust Companies, said: "The average age of the typical investor is 50-plus and they are typically conservative in their investment and general outlook."

## Our bet's on Blair, says bank

By ROBERT MILLER

TONY BLAIR'S new Labour Party has received a welcome boost from a leading City banking house in its annual investment trust review, regarded by many as the private investor's bible.

The 1996 Investment Trust Year Book, published by Credit Lyonnais Laing (CLL), yesterday said it would base its investment outlook on "the political certainty of a Labour Government".

The endorsement could lead to other

fund managers admitting publicly what they have said in private for many months now. CLL said: "We are as certain as we can be that the Labour Party will form the next UK Government." It added: "The decision to pin our colours to the mast in such a high-profile fashion has not been taken lightly."

The investment trust movement, which now boasts some 340 trusts and looks after £56 billion of assets, has traditionally been the preserve of the more knowledgeable private investor. Peter Walls, an analyst

with CLL and a co-author of the annual, said: "Investment trust investors are generally discerning and tend to be conservative with a small 'c' as well as a large 'c'."

Ernest Fenton, director-general of the Association of Investment Trust Companies, said: "The average age of the typical investor is 50-plus and they are typically conservative in their investment and general outlook."

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## BUSINESS TODAY

FT-SE 100	3782.1	(+5.1)
Yield A&A share	4.02%	(+0.03)
Nikkei	21786.45	(+74.35)
Dow Jones	5770.98	(+8.89)
S&P Composite	678.12	(+0.12)
3-mth Interbank	6 1/8%	(0%+)
Life long gilt	100 1/8%	(100%+)
Yen	151.18	(151.25)
London	1.5129	(1.5128)
DM	2.3310	(2.3301)
FF	7.2815	(7.2804)
Yen	151.18	(151.12)
Yen	152.85	(151.51)
S Index	94.3	(94.4)
London	1.5439	(1.5438)
DM	2.3210	(2.3209)
FF	7.2670	(7.2665)
Yen	107.88	(106.94)
S Index	97.2	(97.2)
Tokyo close Yen	107.10	
Brent 15-day (Aug)	\$18.40	(\$18.30)
London close	\$380.85	(\$381.58)

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## Why open competition is better than regulation

In an ideal world, the benefits of competitive and fair trading will be appreciated as much by business as by the consumer, but experience suggests that this particular contract is not always easily understood.

Where is the shareholder benefit in not using hard-won monopoly power to exclude rivals? And is it realistic to ask financial institutions to give "best advice" to borrowers if, in doing so, they fail to sell the latest innovative and most profitable financial product?

After 30 years in business and a much shorter time as Director-General of Fair Trading I believe the benefits to be gained from a marketplace which is open in the fullest sense are clear and unequivocal. An open market is one in which consumers are given choice of many products and services and the information to make that choice. It is also a market where business competes vigorously to provide what the consumer wants, which newcomers can readily enter and where the conflicting forces of

supply and demand determine both the immediate market price and the future revenue stream.

Competition ensures that managers have continually to seek new ways of making their business more efficient, of reducing their cost base and of being more innovative in satisfying the needs of their customers. Without a low cost base, it is difficult to compete on price; without investment in innovation it is difficult to compete with variety. It is vigorous competition which fuels the need to outperform business rivals. To quote Professor Michael Porter, a strongly competitive home market is the key to durable international success. He cites the five forces of competition as: rivalry among existing firms, the threat of new entrants, the bargaining power of both suppliers and customers and the threat of competition from substitute products or services.

Unfortunately, large dominant firms are too often inefficient, lethargic and tempted to behave anti-competitively rather than win market share by virtue of superior

efficiency and effectiveness. Every-one involved in the "contract" is then a loser; the company maintains its inefficiency, potential rivals find the marketplace is closed to them and the consumer is robbed of choice and the chance to secure best value for money. Sometimes regulators have to step in to ensure that competition does work effectively.

But competition is not always sufficient. Consumers need to be adequately protected not only against the abuse of market power for monopoly, but also against unfair or misleading selling techniques. Consumer protection and competition policy are integrally linked.

In the 12 months to September 1995, more than 806,000 complaints from consumers were notified to trading standards departments throughout the country. This represents only the tip of the iceberg but gives some indication of the scale of the problem. How many of these complaints, I wonder, were settled to the consumer's satisfaction? This is where my consumer

### EXECUTIVE VOICE



John Bridgeman

protection functions come in. I have the power to curb the behaviour of rogue traders, issue licences to those wishing to deal in consumer credit and seek court orders to stop companies from using unfair terms in consumer contracts. But strengthening the hand of consumers does not mean that I am opposed to the legitimate interests of business. Nor, I hope, would business see it that way. I support competi-

tive businesses as much as I support demanding, well-informed consumers. Consumer power should be seen as a force for the proper functioning of the marketplace. Ensuring that the consumer is well informed about products and services is a fundamental principle in fair trading.

The proper operation of consumer credit, for instance, demands the exercise of responsibility by both the borrower and the lender acting within the framework of a part of our law which is the envy of much of the rest of the world. My predecessors have on various occasions in the past seen fit to remind lenders of their particular responsibilities. No one in the business of lending needs me to tell them that when credit goes wrong it is expensive for the lender. Lenders must inevitably pass on their costs to their customers or cease trading. So lenders have a very strong interest in making sound lending decisions.

But lenders do not always adopt the minimising of bad debt as an overriding priority in the marketing

of a product, and businesses which create the possibility of bad debt surely carry some responsibility for helping borrowers who get into difficulties. This is not only through acceptance of the need for rescheduling of repayments, but also through promoting and paying for more active support systems.

If the handling of complaints can tell us a lot about the quality of service provided by a particular business, the rigour with which adherence to a voluntary code of practice is monitored by an industry can tell us a lot about the quality of that industry as a whole.

I am absolutely in favour of vigorous competition as an alternative to regulation, but I am also in favour of self-regulation as an alternative to statutory regulation. Industry self-regulation reduces the administrative burden on firms and public expenditure. Codes of practice can provide benefits to consumers, but there are normally two main problems: persuading all firms to participate and ensuring that the system is adequately po-

liced. The latter problem is probably the most serious shortcoming in the draft of a new Code of Lending Practice produced by the Council of Mortgage Lenders. The building societies' attempts to promulgate best practice in the marketing of mortgages is to be applauded, but without knowing what the sanctions will be against any member failing to observe the code, it must raise some reservations.

I am also puzzled at why the draft code proposes that certain charges payable by borrowers will not necessarily be disclosed voluntarily by lenders. And why will the details of a customers' complaints scheme only be available on request?

The Council will, I hope, produce an exemplary Code of Lending Practice. In the meantime, it seems to me that only when business in the UK comes to a full understanding of all the benefits from a more open, vigorous and competitive marketplace will we be able to question the need for external regulation.

John Bridgeman is Director-General of Fair Trading.

### Pace set to float with £250m tag

By FRASER NELSON

PACE Micro Technology, a producer of satellite and cable receivers, is expected to be capitalised at about £250 million when its shares begin trading on the stock market next month. The company's pathfinder prospectus, published yesterday, forecasts profits of £18.1 million before tax for the year to May 31, against £3.36 million in the previous year.

Pace currently produces half of all UK satellite receivers, 50 per cent of which are sold under its own name. The company, set up in 1982, moved into the satellite receiver market in 1987. In 1990, it produced VideoCrypt, a smartcard pay system designed for BSkyB. International orders from The News Corporation, parent company of The Times, now make up 27 per cent of sales.

David Hood and Barry Rubery, joint chief executives, said that the flotation should raise at least £20 million, which would be put towards developing its digital terrestrial receivers. Share dealings are to begin on June 20. The share placing is sponsored by BZW.

## Lucas close to unveiling terms of Varsity deal

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

LUCAS INDUSTRIES and Varsity Corporation are close to concluding a £3 billion merger which would create one of the world's largest brake manufacturers.

Lucas said yesterday that talks between the two companies were going well and that a deal could be announced early next month.

But an announcement of merger terms could yet flush out a hostile counterbid for Lucas, long considered vulnerable to takeover. Those considered possible suitors include TI Group, BTR, and General Motors of the US.

Lucas and Varsity are understood to have agreed to combine Kelsey-Hayes, Varsity's braking subsidiary, with Lucas's brakes business. The other divisions, including Lucas's aerospace and Varsity's diesel businesses, would continue to be run as now. Lucas has made it clear that, contrary to speculation, it does not

wish to sell its aerospace division.

Lucas shares closed down 2p at 235p, having risen this week on speculation that a deal was about to be announced.

A merger would bring together Kelsey-Hayes's ABS expertise and Lucas's strength in foundation brakes, meaning they could offer car manufacturers complete capability. It would also offer Lucas access to the US market for brakes and Kelsey-Hayes access to Europe.

The two companies were inspired to start talking after Robert Bosch, the ABS specialist, paid £1.1 billion for Allied-Signal's Bendix foundation brakes business earlier this year.

The board of Lucas met to discuss the outline of an agreement yesterday and talks with Varsity are expected to continue next week. If a merger proceeds, Victor Rice, the head of Varsity, is likely to become chief executive. George Simpson, Lucas's current chief executive, is to move to GEC this autumn where he will succeed Lord Weinstock. Sir Brian Pearce, chairman of Lucas, would chair the merged company.

City analysts expect a share split, giving Lucas up to 65 per cent of the new company, but warned that this might not go down well with Varsity's US shareholders who could be tempted by a cash offer by another company.

Sources close to Lucas said that such an offer is unlikely because its shares are now relatively expensive. However, Zafar Khan, of SGST, pointed out that a potential predator would want to move before a merger with Varsity made Lucas too big: "We see a strong possibility a merger deal might flush out another party," Mr Khan said.



Ralph Findlay, finance director of Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries, left, and David Thompson, managing director, reported interim pre-tax profits little changed at £18.1 million, against £17.9 million. The dividend rises to 6p from 5.4p. Tempus. Page 26

### Investing declines as stock levels rise

By JANET BUSH  
ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

STOCK levels in British companies continued to rise in the first quarter of this year while investment fell, according to the Office for National Statistics.

Stocks increased by £706 million, after a rise of £1.04 billion in the final quarter of last year. Economists had expected that firms would have started running down stock levels after building them up involuntarily last year because of weak demand. However, firms still seem to be struggling to off-load their inventories, which bodes ill for growth this year.

Nevertheless, manufacturers built up stocks by far less than last year, suggesting that demand may be improving. Retailers increased their stocks at a greater rate, but this may be a voluntary phenomenon reflecting improving consumer demand. The NTC Research company yesterday reported that, in April, its forward indicator of consumer activity reached its highest level since July 1994.

First-quarter manufacturing investment fell 2 per cent from the previous quarter and was only 1 per cent up on a year ago.

### Insurers fail to make full disclosures

MANY of the UK's biggest life insurance companies are refusing to reveal the charges and performance of their policies, in spite of the introduction of rules 18 months ago that made this a mandatory requirement (Caroline Marrell writes).

A survey published this week by Money Marketing, the trade magazine, questioned a total of 54 companies about their with-profits life insurance and personal pension policies — only 37 provided full details.

Comment, page 29  
Details, page 30

### BAT shares rise after smokers lose in court

By ALASDAIR MURRAY

SHARES of BAT, the tobacco and insurance group, rose yesterday after a US federal appeals court dismissed a class action lawsuit which could have resulted in millions of smokers suing the tobacco companies.

The court ruled that smokers could sue the tobacco companies individually, but could not bring a class-action suit that would set a precedent for universal damages.

BAT shares yesterday rose 19p to 521p after the ruling, which eases the company's liability worries. Brown and Williamson, BAT's subsid-

iary, is the second-largest tobacco company in America. The ruling also sent tobacco shares soaring in the US. Anti-smoking campaigners in the US said they would continue their campaign. Lawyers are preparing to launch similar class action cases at state level.

The latest case involved three New Orleans smokers who claimed that the addictive qualities of cigarettes had prevented them from giving up smoking. Lawyers had hoped to set a precedent to enable millions of other smokers to claim damages running into billions of dollars.

### BUSINESS ROUNDUP

#### US assesses Lloyd's for mail fraud

A FEDERAL investigation has been launched in America into whether Lloyd's of London committed mail fraud when it solicited Americans to become names. Having the US Government dig into fraud allegations already investigated by securities regulators in a dozen states could cause legal complications for Lloyd's as it tries to negotiate settlements of lawsuits and get on with restructuring.

The US Postal Inspection Service has sent questionnaires to some of the 3,000 US investors. Detailed questions touch on the pivotal issue of whether Lloyd's misled investors about the risks of joining the insurance market. One question asks: "Do you feel that misrepresentations were made to you in connection with your decisions to participate in Lloyd's?" A spokeswoman for the Postal Inspector's office said that the inquiry had been begun after complaints from names were forwarded by the US Justice Department's office in New York. Lloyd's said that it is aware of the questionnaire.

#### UK firms eye Swedbus

STAGECOACH and Firstbus, the two leading British bus operators, are understood to be among seven groups interested in bidding for Swedbus, the Swedish bus operator being sold by Sweden's state railways. The two UK companies would not comment, but are understood to have signed letters of intent for the Swedish privatisation, forecast to carry a price tag of about £1 billion (£97 million). Swedbus, one of Scandinavia's leading bus operators, made a profit after financial items, of £111 million in 1995, on turnover of £1.5 billion.

#### Govan yard wins order

A £50 million order announced by Kvaerner Govan shipyard in Glasgow will preserve the jobs of the 1,300-strong workforce until summer 1997. It also offers extra temporary jobs, said the company, part of Kvaerner, the Norwegian industrial group. The contract is with J O Tankers, of Norway, which owns the world's fourth-largest fleet of chemical tankers, for a 36,800-tonne, environmentally friendly chemical carrier. The vessel will be a sister ship to the Clyde yard's J O Selje, named by the Queen in October 1993. Delivery is scheduled for spring 1998.

#### GET falls but pays out

SHARES in GET, the electrical supplies group that floated on the stock market in February 1995 at 125p, fell 25p to 62p yesterday after the company disclosed a 63 per cent decline in pre-tax profits to £532,000 for the six months to February 29. Operating profit was down 58 per cent to £733,000. Earnings dropped 72 per cent to 2.16p a share. There is a maiden interim dividend of 0.5p a share. The company said that it was seeking to shift its dependency on cable and flex sales, which shrunk by 15 per cent.

#### Graham issues alert

GRAHAM GROUP, the builders' merchant, yesterday warned shareholders that first-half profits will be significantly lower than last year. Graham had been on course for current-year profits of between £22 million and £25 million, but analysts have cut estimates to about £15 million. Speaking at Graham's annual meeting, Ian Mills, chief executive, blamed problems in the housing market as demand for items from heating products through to bricks remains flat. Shares in Graham, which has 195 branches, fell 14p, to 165p.

### THE SUNDAY TIMES

The extraordinary share-price rises confirmed British Biotech's position as one of the country's leading companies. But it is also one of the most controversial...

Business Focus. The Sunday Times tomorrow

### POLAND

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### TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia \$	2.01	1.85
Austria Sch	17.42	15.92
Belgium Fr	50.88	48.58
Canada \$	2.189	2.093
Cyprus Cyp£	0.783	0.698
Denmark Kr	9.58	8.78
Finland Mk	17.75	17.10
France Fr	9.21	7.88
Germany DM	2.48	2.28
Greece Dr	384.00	359.00
Hong Kong \$	12.38	11.38
Ireland Ir£	1.22	0.94
Israel Shk	5.3400	4.8900
Italy Lit	2470.00	2315.00
Japan Yen	178.00	160.00
Malta	0.990	0.935
Netherlands Gld	2.782	2.532
New Zealand \$	2.38	2.14
Norway Kr	10.54	9.74
Portugal Esc	250.50	222.00
S Africa Rd	7.17	6.97
Spain Ptas	201.50	188.50
Sweden Kr	10.88	10.18
Switzerland Fr	2.05	1.87
Turkey Lira	122140	114140
USA \$	1.612	1.482

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

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SCOTTISH WIDOWS



## STOCK MARKET

MICHAEL CLARK

# US court ruling lights up BAT in lacklustre trading

WALL STREET may be getting ready to celebrate the Dow Jones centenary, but investors on the London stock market were again finding it difficult to get in the party mood.

The equity market overcame political worries and a rare overnight setback for Wall Street, after its recent run, to end a difficult week on a steady note. But there was no disguising the apathy felt by many investors.

The FT-SE 100 index managed to summon the strength to claw back an earlier 14-point deficit, helped by an opening rise in New York.

It ended a lacklustre session 5.1 points up at 3,752.1, a loss on the week of 37.5 points. Trading conditions proved thin, with turnover falling to the lowest level of the week as just 604 million shares changed hands.

The one bright spot among the top 100 companies was BAT Industries, which topped the session 19p before ending the session 19p down, 521p on the back of the US court decision overnight to throw out a class ruling brought against the tobacco companies.

The Castano case has hung like a cloud over the industry, with individuals and various states claiming compensation running into billions of dollars. They allege that the tobacco companies withheld information about the harmful effects of smoking.

Yorkshire Electricity ended the session on a firm note with a rise of 15p at 733p amid vague talk that Scottish Power may be lining up a bid.

The story has been dismissed in some quarters, with brokers pointing out that Scottish Power already owns Manweb. Even so, Scottish, 4p off at 330p, is believed to have been locked away in talks with Baring's, its adviser.

British Biotech, which has experienced volatility of late, dropped 18p to £27.90, having briefly touched £38 earlier this week. Merrill Lynch unsent the market by suggesting that an American company was developing a cancer treatment to rival Marimastat.

Cortec International rose 22p to 373p after announcing plans to raise £20 million in Japan via a placing of shares. Brokers gave a cool reception to half-year figures from Wolverhampton & Dudley Breweries, with the price tum-



BAT Industries rose 19p on news of the US ruling

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the first half of 1995.

The news from Graham also pulled the rug from several of its rivals.

Travis Perkins fell 6p to 425p, Meyer International 3p to 430p, and Harrison & Crossfield 1p to 143p. Wolseley, which has extensive overseas interests, also eased 1p to 457p.

Lucas Industries retreated 2p to 235p. Talks with Varty Corporation, the US automotive parts group, are continuing, but the group said an announcement is unlikely until next month.

A spokesman for Lucas said the talks are "proceeding well". City speculators are banking on a merger between the two companies which would create a major player valued at about £3 billion.

One of the biggest moves of the day was seen in Dawson Holdings as the price soared 350p to £16.50. Dawson is taking control of the rest of Surridge Dawson Holdings, the newspaper distributor, by acquiring its other main shareholder.

Dawson and PWJ Surridge own 50 per cent of Surridge Dawson Holdings, which controls 85 per cent of Surridge Dawson Ltd, its only operating subsidiary.

Dawson is paying £15.4 million for PWJ and £5.3 million to 3i for the remaining 15 per cent. Last year Dawson hoisted pre-tax profits from £12.7 million to £14.4 million.

GIILT-EDGED: The market managed to close off the bottom after a lacklustre performance that lacked any real direction from US treasury bonds.

Investors proved reluctant to open fresh positions ahead of the bank holiday weekend and Wednesday's £3 billion auction of Treasury 8 per cent 2021.

Despite this, turnover in the futures pit proved encouraging, with a total of 41,000 contracts completed in the June series of the long gilt, which closed a couple of ticks easier at £106.112. Among conventional issues, Treasury 8 per cent 2015 was down 7 1/2 at 197 1/2, while in shorts Treasury 8 per cent 2000 lost 3 1/2 to £102.72.

NEW YORK: Shares on Wall Street opened with a rush, up almost 27 points, only to fade during the morning. The Dow Jones industrial average was 8.86 points higher by midday at 5,770.98.

## MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):	
Dow Jones	5770.98 (+8.86)
S&P Composite	570.12 (+3.12)
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Average	21798.43 (+74.39)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	11019.16 (+11.08)
Amsterdam:	
AEX	364.28 (+0.48)

صحة من الاصل



## TAX GRIP 28

Councils get tougher with homeowners

# WEEKEND MONEY

## BLAIR THOUGHTS

Analysts try to understand Labour's message



NANCY TOLFORE

# First-time movers are the market shakers

After a long hard winter of negative equity and repossession, could spring finally have come to the housing market? Thousands of househunters, lured by discount mortgages, cashback offers and rock-bottom interest rates, are preparing to spend their Bank Holiday weekend investigating fitted kitchens and garden flats. The Halifax Building Society, the country's largest lender, believes June could bring another rise in house prices, making it the 10th consecutive monthly rise. The society had predicted a 2 per cent rise in prices this year, but is ready to revise that figure upwards if June sales look promising.

Meanwhile, estate agents and mortgage providers, ever the optimists, claim to have discovered a new breed of househunter, whom they believe will kick-start the housing market. Step aside first-time buyers; step forward first-time movers.

Building societies and banks are currently offering the lowest mortgage rates for nearly 30 years and this week reported that lending is up 25 per cent on last year and the mortgage market is experiencing a gradual recovery. They also indicated a change in the type of lending.

"We are not seeing as much of the first-time buyers as we would like to. Instead the business is coming from first-time movers, people moving from a flat to a small house or from a terrace to a family home," said John Gully, Portman's head of corporate affairs.

First-time buyers, who cannot remember interest rates as high as 15 per cent, remain unimpressed by the fact that

AS LENDERS are proudly proclaiming, mortgage rates are at a 30-year low. But, for many first-time buyers, who cannot remember the double-digit rates of the late Eighties, this is a meaningless statistic. So instead, banks and building societies are concentrating their efforts on another group, those leaving their first small flat for something

larger. Special deals are on offer for these first-time movers, the new housing market heroes. Such special deals may not, however, be around for long if the Bank of England has its way. This week, it warned on the dangers of artificially low rates. Anne Ashworth, Marianne Curphey, Sara Jones and Sara McConnell report.

rates are at a 30-year low. First-time movers on the other hand realise that fixed-rate mortgages at least cannot go any lower and are deciding to move house while they can.

There is often pressure on first-time movers to actually move, whether job or family related. They may have held back while rates were high and property values low, but

in central London confirms that since the beginning of the year the housing market has started to pick up. "We are seeing a lot of activity, particularly in sales of top of the range properties but also across the board."

Up to the end of last year lenders were concentrating on stealing customers from each other, a practice known in the industry as "churning".

For many the bulk of their business was remortgages, where borrowers rearrange their mortgage but they stay in their own home. Such arrangements mean there is no overall increase in the market. Now, however, providers are gaining a more genuine market and in the first quarter

of this year, with homeowners actually moving, there has been an increase in the purchase market. At National Counties, remortgaging still accounts for the majority of business. "However we are seeing more confidence. Our mortgages are for people with an equity stake of at least 30 per cent in their property, and those people are definitely moving," said John Milton, general manager.

Bradford & Bingley has seen an up-turn in house purchases, but again by second and third-time buyers rather than first-timers.

For those on the move and taking out a new mortgage, the big dilemma is still whether to fix or to be lured by a discount and cashback.

The decision hinges on what you think interest rates will do over the next five years. Current thinking is that if you fix your mortgage now for a term that takes you beyond the coming general election, you will not be hit when rates start rising afterwards.

Furthermore, a five-year deal will take you to 2001, a year or two before the election after next is due, when rates should again be low and you can get another election-beating loan.

That's a myth, said Ian Sheppardson, UK economist at HSBC. "The interest cycle

will happen, but it will be much more modest than previous swings.

All the evidence points to low labour costs and a stable economy. That means inflation will stay low and clearly so will the base rate. If base rates stay modest, so will mortgage variable rates and that means fixed rates no longer look such a good deal.

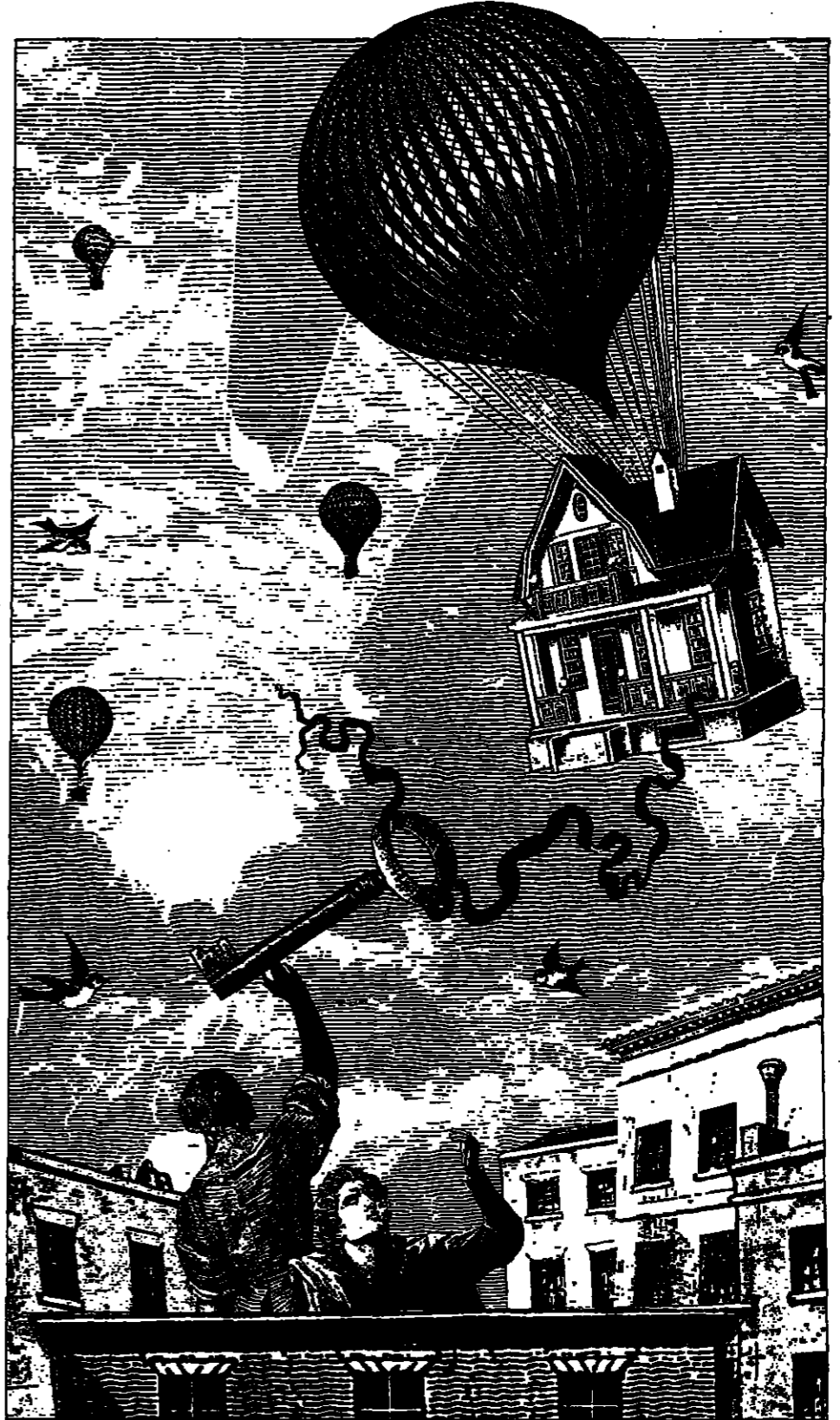
There are two further nails in the fixed-rate coffin. First, the best deals have already gone. Three months ago you can get a five-year rate for under 7 per cent. Now the lowest five-year rate available, with no strings, is 7.69 per cent from NatWest, while Cheltenham & Gloucester charges 8.69 per cent.

Secondly, when musing over a fixed rate borrowers tend to compare it with the lender's variable rate. What they should look at is the discount rates on offer. So a three-year fixed rate of 7.69 per cent from the Cheltenham & Gloucester looks good next to a current variable rate of 7.25 per cent.

Compare it instead with a three-year discount of 1.85 per cent from the Stroud & Swindon that gives a current payable rate of 5.39 per cent. That means unless variable rates rise above 9.54 per cent over the three years, you would be better off with the discount.

(However nothing is simple: on loans above 75 per cent of the property deal, the picture is less clear because Cheltenham & Gloucester is unusual in not charging mortgage indemnity guarantee.)

Weekend Money is edited by Anne Ashworth



## BEST BUYS FOR HOME MOVERS

Lender	Initial payable rate %	Present variable rate %	Fixed or discounted until	Maximum advance
Principality 0800 454478	1.00	6.74	Disc to 01.07.97	90
National Counties 01372 739702	4.48	6.89	Disc for 2 years	70
Principality 0800 454478	4.90	6.74	Disc to 01.07.98	95
Portman 01225 318339	5.99	7.24	Fixed to 01.05.98	90
Bristol & West 01225 424183	6.95	7.25	Fixed to 30.06.00	90
Cheltenham & Gloucester 01793 223444	7.24	7.24	5% cashback Variable rate	90
Nat West 0800 400899	7.89	7.25	Fixed to 30.06.02	95

Sources: Lenders & Country Mortgages - 0800 373320

## What's the future for discount deals?

Happily for borrowers, a Bank of England warning about the dangers of artificially low mortgages to both customers and lenders does not spell the end of discounts and cashbacks.

After the warning, the Halifax Building Society, the largest lender, confirmed that it would be continuing to offer cashbacks of as much as £10,000 and discounts of as much as 3 per cent.

However, future loan offers may be less generous, or structured in a different way, with discounts being given throughout the whole term, rather than during the first few years. The increased demand for mortgages, reported earlier this week, may also cut the numbers of low rate deals on offer.

John Gully, of the Portman Building Society, says: "As the

market picks up, the need to go out and buy business will be unnecessary. Why should lenders offer a rate of 1 per cent when they can get the business at 5 per cent? Even before the Bank of England's warning, we have seen a decrease in the number of high discounted mortgages."

The main concern surrounding discounted loans is the "rate shock" - the blow to the wallet when repayments rise from their reduced level of as little as 1 per cent to the lender's normal variable, a six or sevenfold increase. The main criticism of cashbacks is that customers are tempted by the offer of cash in hand without working out long-term implications.

Another pitfall in the fixed or discounted rate loan is the "lock-in period". To recoup its losses on the discounted deal, the society imposes a penalty

if you try to quit either during the lower rate period, or for a number of years thereafter. Borrowers with the Halifax are locked in for seven years, those with National & Provincial for six.

Andrew Messenger, chief executive of the West Bromwich Building Society, said: "We have measures in place that ensure that the most vulnerable people do not get big discounts. Our discounts go to those with less than 75 per cent loan to value, who are often second-time buyers and who our assessment shows can cope with any rate rise."

He added: "The disaster the Bank of England is predicting will not happen. The competition of the last year or so has squeezed profits and lenders will have to pull back, reducing discounts and increasing

fixed rates." Lenders canvassed by *The Times* acknowledged that discounted rates held risks. But they said that it was impossible for them to do business in a competitive marketplace without offering special deals.

Brian Davis, chief executive of the Nationwide, said that his society had brought in smaller, long-term discounts. He added that as a building society with no need to provide a return to shareholders the Nationwide could afford to give a better deal than banks or the societies destined for the stock market.

The Cheltenham & Gloucester, the home loans division of Lloyds Bank, has predicted the demise of the cashback.

ANNE ASHWORTH AND SARAH JONES

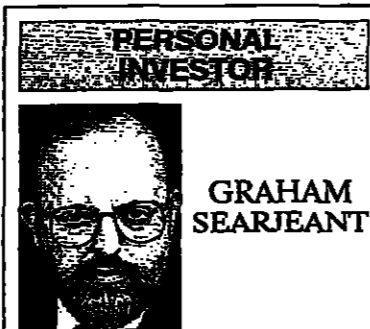
## Risks that bring rewards

Congratulations to investors in British Biotech. They have now seen their shares multiply sixfold in value in a year. But anyone slavering to follow should remember that for most shareholders, the breakthrough is a reward for years of patience. For its first three years as a quoted company, British Biotech was a poor investment: the shares were down a fifth after 18 months and only caught up with the all-share average last autumn.

The share price is leaping because Marimastat, Biotech's cancer-killing chemical, has passed another high hurdle on its way to market. Even the most promising drug is like a scientific proposition: valid only in the sense that its value has not been disproved. Marimastat could be a big seller, which is why British Biotech is priced nearly high enough to join the FT-SE 100-share index. It could still be worthless: if 60 per cent of drugs that reach clinical trials make it, 40 per cent do not.

Even Boots was so discomfited when its big hope Manaplast failed at the last moment that it got out of this high-risk business altogether. One blockbuster drug from a huge research programme was the making of modern Glaxo. But pharmaceuticals are such a high-risk business that the world's top companies now aim to deliver a faster, steadier stream of more modest advances.

Big rewards go with big risks. Success generates as much profit and delight as mining and oil strikes. As in the resource business, though, there are many tales of woe for every one of joy. Late-



GRAHAM SEARJEANT

comers need to be wary. Canny bonanza hunters buy the hope and sell the reality. Even Eurotunnel investors could have quadrupled their money if they sold in 1989, before the hard graft began.

There is more satisfaction in profits from financing new medicines or scientific advances. There have been plenty recently, MAID shares multiplied 3½ times when IBM took its electronic database service. Shares in Unipalm, developer of the Pipex Internet server, showed a similar gain over 19 months on an American takeover. BTG, a relic of the 1970s National Enterprise Board that exploits patents, was placed at 225p last July and now sells at £19 a share. BTG still makes a loss but a new motor gear has been licensed to Toyota.

By contrast, shareholders in much-hyped Virtuality Group show only a 10 per cent loss after three bumpy years - so far. Who knows what will happen? Only insiders really know the true odds

in such cases. Investors can read the runes, but must wait patiently to see if their horse wins the race.

If timing were easy, you could profit just as spectacularly in long-quoted companies. Among the As alone, you could have quadrupled your money in four months ahead of a buy-in at all-time Arlen, made a similar coup at Asprey ahead of last year's takeover or, most recently, at long-lagging Laura Ashley. Even blue chips are fair game. If you bought Asda shares at their 1992 trough, you would have trebled your money in a year and quinqupled it by now. Straying into Bs, £1,000 invested in British Aerospace in autumn 1992 became £5,000 by end-1993 and £8,000 now.

Few did buy at the trough, because this was a point of maximum danger. Some of them could have gone bust. Just as often, bargain hunting led to a 100 per cent loss. In the exciting new companies, risks are just as real if less apparent. Venture capital is venturesome. There may be total failures as well as many that will never come to much.

Spreading the risk means spreading rewards thinner too. For investors targeting long-term growth, with no care for income, venture capital investment trusts are still worth backing. On NatWest Securities' calculations, most beat the all-share average most of the time. But some underperform badly and, like most low-income securities, the sector is volatile. Even in trusts, risk is the price of higher rewards.

## NEW INVESTMENT TRUST LAUNCH

# Fidelity Asian Values PLC.

"The offer's open for another 12 days only - I'd better act now."

Fidelity believes that the Asian stockmarkets offer attractive investment opportunities for the long-term investor. Over the last 5 years they have grown by 174%, that's an average annual performance of 22%.\*

With economic growth expected to continue to exceed that of the major developed countries, Fidelity is launching a new investment trust: Fidelity Asian Values PLC, to invest in Asia, excluding Japan.

### Fidelity's proven track record in Asia.

It is intended that the new fund will be managed from Fidelity's Hong Kong office by KC Lee, Fidelity's senior Investment

Director for Asia. He currently manages Fidelity's South East Asia Trust - a £320m unit trust - which has grown by 702% since launch in 1984. He intends to use a similar investment approach to manage Fidelity Asian Values PLC.

To take advantage of this investment trust launch, register now for your Mini Prospectus. The offer is only available for another 12 days until 5th June and the initial size of the fund after launch, will be capped at £130 million. So act now. Call Fidelity on 0800 414110, seven days a week from 9am to 6pm or speak to your Independent Financial Adviser.

0800 414110  
Contact your Independent Financial Adviser or call us on the above number.



\*Asian equity fund managers' performance for 1995 for individual fund managers in Asia Pacific equities. \*\*The MSCI All Countries (Combined) Far East Free of Japan Index to 1.59%. \*\*\*Microcap, offer to offer with net income reinvested to 1.59%. (Microcap Sector: Far East (excluding Japan) Specialist Equity Growth (non-specialist) unit trusts. This advertisement is not an offer or invitation to apply for shares or warrants of Fidelity Asian Values PLC (the "Company"). Applications for shares or warrants in the Company may be made solely on the basis of information contained in the Prospectus and Mini Prospectus. Past performance is no guarantee of future returns. The value of investments and income from them may fall as well as rise and investors may not get back the amount originally invested. Shares listed on stockmarkets in Asia can be more volatile and less marketable than in more developed stockmarkets. Changes in exchange rates between currencies may cause the value of the investment to diminish or increase. Investment in warrants is likely to involve a high level of gearing such that a relatively small movement in the price of the ordinary shares to which the warrants relate may result in a disproportionately large movement, unfavourable as well as favourable, in the price of the warrants. Fidelity only provides information about its products and will not give investment advice based on individual circumstances. Issued by Fidelity Investments International, regulated by IMRO and the Personal Investment Authority. Registered offices Oakhill House, Tonbridge Road, Kent TN11 9DZ.

Karen Zagor looks at the increasing demands on homeowners

# Caught in the grip of tightening council tax

As taxpayers prepare to pay the third instalment of council tax for the current year, it is hardly surprising that many feel that they are being squeezed dry.

This year, we are forking out an extra £2.5 billion in council tax, representing an average increase of 6.2 per cent over 1995's payments.

The increases vary wildly from authority to authority. In Islington, for example, comparatively high rates jumped another 14.5 per cent for a band D home. Yet inflation is running at only 2.9 per cent. This is not the first time that council tax increases have outpaced inflation. Last year, council taxes rose an average of 5.4 per cent, whereas inflation was up a more modest 3.4 per cent.

To make matters worse, those who have had their payments subsidised by transitional relief, which was intended to ease the pain of the shift from poll tax to council tax, will no longer receive this help. Transitional relief has now been eliminated.

The Times has discovered that if a council makes a mistake and charges a resident the wrong amount of tax, the authority can demand payment for the difference at any time in the six years after the mistake was made.

For a resident who has diligently paid every bill on time, this can result in an unexpected bill of thousands of pounds if the council's errors stretch over several years. As with most council tax bills, these come with a demand that payment be made within 14 days.

Part of the problem is that, unlike income tax, it is almost impossible for an ordinary person to calculate how much council tax is due. All you can do is check that you are paying the correct level for the band in which the property falls. If you are currently not being billed at all, the chances are that the council has made a mistake.

Consumers have very little redress when it comes to rectifying an authority's errors because councils have a legal right to demand money owed. But if the demand seems unreasonable, there should be room to negotiate.

Rob Rundle, spokesman for the local government ombudsman in London said: "Yes, we have had complaints about this, but they haven't led to reports. When someone

complaints, the ombudsman will look at reasonableness. If a council said to someone 'we've undercharged you and this is what you should have paid us', and if the request was lawful, the ombudsman would expect the council to give this person a reasonable time to pay."

Any unusual demand from a council should be investigated. It is not unknown for councils to make outrageous blunders. The Sun recently reported a case in which Borders Council sent a tax demand addressed to "William McCafferty, deceased", five months after he had died from cancer.

## UNDERPAYING

If a council finds that it has made a mistake, it is required to rebill you. If, however, you think this is because of maladministration or incompetence on the part of the authority, you can complain to the local government ombudsman. The ombudsman cannot reimburse you, but he can issue a report and make a recommendation for remedy. He can also put pressure on the council if it decides not to follow his recommendation.

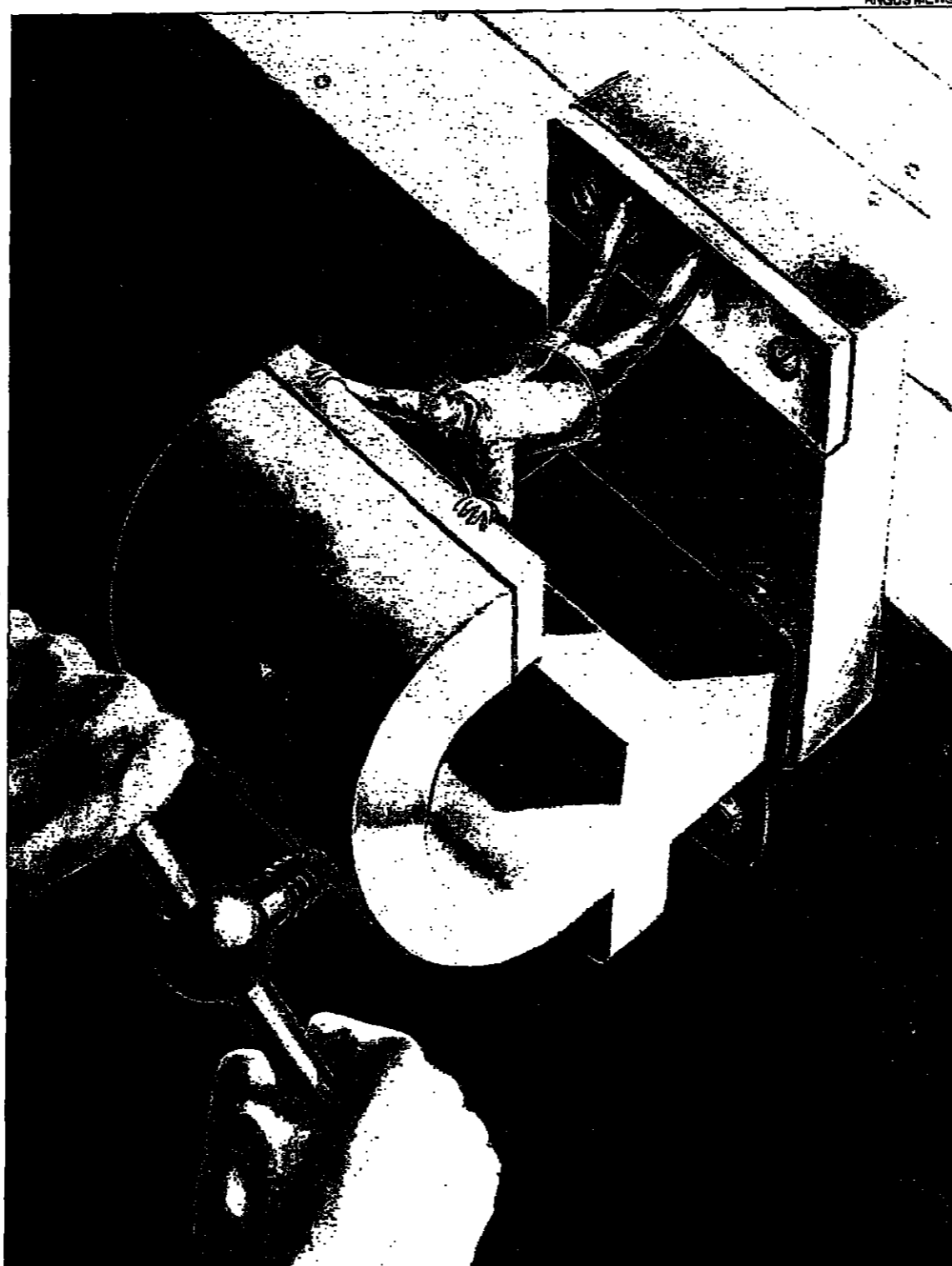
The ombudsman's office says that all disputes should first be taken directly to the council. If that fails, you should make a formal complaint to a senior person at the council. If you are still dissatisfied, then you should contact your nearest local government ombudsman. There are three offices in England — in York, Coventry and London — one in Wales, and one in Scotland. Ask your council, library or Citizens Advice Bureau for details.

## BANDING

Council tax is based on property values in 1991, when the property market was much stronger than it is today. As a result, if your property was worth £95,000 in 1991, it would fall into band D, even if it is now worth only £85,000.

The substantial drop in house prices since 1991 has led to calls for a government review of the bands.

The Department of Environment argues that if your property has fallen in value because of the weak market, then every other similar property in your neighbourhood will



also be worth less, and that the relationship between different properties will not have changed. It is estimated that two million properties were placed in the wrong bands in 1991, and about one million properties are still believed to be in the wrong bracket. While it is too late to appeal against the 1991 valuations for an existing home, you are allowed to appeal if you have moved in the past six months and believe that a mistake was made in 1991. You can also appeal to have the banding changed if there have been substantial physical changes to the property in recent years. If a motorway now runs through your garden, you may be due for a rates reduction. But if you have substantially raised your home's value, you may be rebanded.

## DROP IN INCOME

If you cannot afford the council tax on your property, expect little mercy from the authority unless your circumstances have changed dramatically. Council tax benefit, from the Department of Social Services, can be a real help. The benefit is based on the amount of council tax you pay, your level of income and sundry circumstances. A spokeswoman for Camden Council said: "Individuals are obliged to tell us if their circumstances change. If your level of income drops, or your partner dies, let us know. After everything is assessed you may well qualify for a reduced rate because of a change in family circumstance."

## GRANNY FLATS

If you have set up a self-contained flat for an ageing parent, it will almost certainly incur council tax while it is inhabited, because it qualifies as a dwelling in its own right.

Once the flat is vacated, it may become immune from council tax, depending on the actual space. An annex that cannot be let separately from the main dwelling without breaching planning permits, for example, would be exempt while unoccupied.

An updated Council Tax Handbook is due later this year from CPAG LTD, 1-5 Bath Street, London EC1V 9PY. Price, £9.95.

## A QUESTION OF MONEY

# Unit trusts facing an open end

The financial services world, riddled as it is with confusing jargon, is about to gain another acronym. The imaginatively entitled Open Ended Investment Companies (Oeics) are poised to join the already bewildering world of collective investments, currently occupied by unit trusts and investment trusts.

Over the next few years, Oeics are likely to replace unit trusts in the collective investment stable. Many fund managers are also considering whether they can convert their existing funds into Oeics.

Much will depend on the final outline of the rules, which will be formed out of legislation which has yet to go through Parliament.

Even though Oeics are unlikely to make an appearance before the end of the year, forewarned is forearmed. Here *The Times* answers some basic questions about this new product.

**Q** Just what exactly are Oeics?

**A** They are structured as single companies which trade in shares of different companies, like an investment trust. However, unlike an investment trust which is "closed ended", having a fixed number of shares in issue, Oeics are "open-ended" which means that new shares can be created. Their open-ended structure makes them much more like unit trusts. But unlike unit trusts, which are governed by trust law, Oeics will come under company law.

**Q** Why are Oeics being introduced?

**A** It was thought necessary to introduce these funds because unit trusts are a difficult concept to explain to investors in other countries where trust law is not a known quantity. Many fund managers have had to run two fund ranges, one from the UK and one from abroad, to satisfy both markets.

**Q** Will they have any significant advantages over unit trusts?

**A** The biggest advantage of Oeics over unit trusts is that they will operate on a single price — investors will be able to buy and sell shares at one quoted price. This is in contrast to the current, somewhat obscure, bid/offer pricing structure of unit trusts, where units are bought and sold at different prices. A bid/offer spread means that if you buy units and then immediately sell them — there will usually be a price difference of about 6 per cent.

**Q** Are there any other advantages?

**A** Oeics will be able to offer a variety of different types of shares to meet the requirements of different types of investors. For instance, it will be possible to have shares quoted in different currencies for investors abroad. Fund managers are also hoping the new structure will allow them to offer funds that pay out a guaranteed amount over a fixed term.

**Q** Will investors in Oeics get the same protection as those who hold their investments in unit trusts?

**A** The Association of Unit Trusts and Investment Funds believes that the investor protection regimes governing both types of investment will be equivalent. Shareholders in Oeics will be able to vote on the issues governing their funds in the same way as unitholders do now. Oeics will hold annual meetings for shareholders as investment trusts do now.

**Q** Will existing unit trusts convert to Oeics?

**A** Many of the fund management groups are pondering whether to change their existing funds when the legislation comes in. They believe Oeics will pave the way for greater clarity, more flexibility and more active shareholder involvement in the way the fund is managed.

**Q** Will there be any costs to the fund of converting?

**A** The Treasury has just announced that it intends to waive the 0.5 per cent stamp duty on conversion costs, which will encourage more trusts to change their structure.

**Q** Will the unit trust industry eventually disappear?

**A** The fund management groups anticipate that Oeics will eventually completely replace unit trusts. This may take a few years. In the meantime it is likely investment managers will offer two ranges of funds.

**Q** Is there going to be any more general rationalisation in the unit trust industry?

**A** The Treasury's decision to waive stamp duty applies to unit trust mergers in general. Over the next few months there is likely to be a spate of mergers between funds.

CAROLINE MERRELL

# Mortgages that have become millstones



Norman: advertised TMC

Tens of thousands of borrowers are still paying for the excesses of the 1980s housing boom, when they became trapped by negative equity and mortgage rates well above the current standard variable rate of 7.25 per cent.

In some cases they are paying a full 3 percentage points above average rates, which would add an extra £100 every month to a £60,000 repayment mortgage. Yet current standard variable rates are among the lowest in 30 years. Borrowers with National Home Loans Corporation are some of the hardest hit, paying a standard variable rate of 10.65 per cent.

NHL this week announced a rise of about 33 per cent in half-year profits and raised its dividend. Yet it still refuses to relent on its high interest rate strategy.

Its hard-pressed existing customers will be interested to learn that NHL is now lending again through a new company, Homeloans Direct, where the variable rate is 7.2 per cent.

Borrowers with the Western Trust Bank, whose mortgage book was bought last year by the Birmingham Midshires Building Society, are paying up to 9.75 per cent.

The Mortgage Corporation, owned by Salomon Brothers, the international investment bank, is no longer actively seeking new business. In the mid-1980s, its wares were advertised by Barry Norman, the TV presenter. Most of its borrowers are paying 7.99 per cent, some even higher rates.

Many hapless borrowers are customers of centralised lenders, without high street branches, who entered the mortgage market during the boom.

Some specialised in self-certification loans, where borrowers vouched for their own income, or roll-up loans, where interest was deferred in the early years of the loan but rolled up and added to the outstanding debt. When interest rates rose and house prices fell, borrowers fell into arrears or were repossessed.

Some borrowers are benefiting from a change in mortgage ownership. When UCB Home Loans sold its £4

million mortgage book to the Nationwide Building Society last June, UCB borrowers were paying three-quarters of a per cent more than Nationwide borrowers. Almost immediately the rate fell. About half the UCB customers are now paying 7.24 per cent, an improvement but still higher than Nationwide customers, who are paying 6.74 per cent under the society's mutuality package. Self-employed UCB borrowers are paying 8.24 per cent.

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## Big names shy from glasnost

Glasnost was unpopular among those Soviet citizens with something to hide. Similarly, the disclosure regime, intended to bring a new spirit of openness to the selling of endowments and pensions, makes some life insurance companies uneasy. So uncomfortable, in fact, that more than a dozen would not submit full details of their performance and the charges they deduct from your premiums to a with-profits survey by *Money Marketing* (see page 30).

These refusniks are not obscure businesses. Some are household names, usually eager to promote their wares. The list of mutes includes: Cornhill, Irish Life, Pearl, Refuge, Scottish Equitable, and NPI, whose squirrel and acorn ads regularly adorn our TV screens.

Some used as the excuse that they were no longer



**COMMENT**  
**ANNE ASHWORTH**  
*Personal Finance Editor*

selling with-profit endowments. This puny pretext raises the obvious suspicion that their results were so poor they could not bear comparison with the survey's leaders. Top of this list are: Commercial Union, Equitable Life, General Accident and Standard Life.

It also suggests a disdain for existing customers who should, without delay, write to these companies, asking for performance data for their policies, prepared on the *Money Marketing* basis. Customers preparing to buy

pensions and other investments from these reticent groups should note how they treat their policyholders and reconsider their decision. The advice to think again also applies to those about to invest with some of the companies that did come clean and may now be regretting the move.

Pause, for example, if you are tempted to open a Prudential executive personal pension plan to look at figures guaranteed to make you gasp and stretch

your eyes. The company anticipates that if you pay a £25,000 single premium into one of these pensions today its commissions and other expenses will amount to £228,000 over a 35-year period. Elsewhere, the charges may be as low as £13,000 which means a difference of £215,000 in the final size of the fund.

On page 32, we report that Credit Lyonnais Laing, the broker, is basing all its forecasts on the presumption that Tony Blair will be the next Prime Minister. Some life companies are obviously not making any plans for a possible change in government, or they would already be prepared to fall in line with Labour pensions policy. This will require companies to give clear and regular information to policyholders, surely the most reasonable of demands, whoever is in power.

## Power to the people

**Caroline Merrell**  
offers guidance to investors on the upcoming sell-off of British Energy

The marketing campaign for the sell-off of British Energy, the final company in the Government's ten-year-long privatisation programme begins in earnest this week.

The campaign will kick off with an announcement on Tuesday of the list of registered share shops. A prospectus of the company will follow in a few weeks' time.

The Government is expected to allocate at least 30 per cent of the shares to small shareholders, although this could be higher, as in the case of Railtrack where the final public allocation hit 58.5 per cent.

British Energy comprises eight nuclear power stations in Scotland and England. Together, the stations are responsible for generating about 18 per cent of the UK's electricity. The other generators, National Power and PowerGen, have been sold already.

The sell-off of British Energy has been dogged by controversy, mainly because of public concern about the safety of nuclear reactors and their



Will British Energy draw the crowds like Lightning?

impact on the environment. The marketing campaign is expected to try to address those concerns.

The prospects for those interested in investing in British Energy depend on the amount of debt with which it is saddled, the price of wholesale electricity and, of course, the price tag the Government puts

on the company. It is hoping to raise between £2.4 billion and £2.6 billion from the sale, but bearing in mind that this is the last privatisation before the general election, most analysts believe it will be "priced to go".

Dealings in Railtrack shares began on Monday, with private investors seeing an instant profit of about 14

per cent on their shares in just one week. Not all those who applied for Railtrack shares will get their full allocation, as the offer was nearly twice oversubscribed.

About 44 per cent of those who applied through the UK public offer will get their full allocation and 97 per cent will get all or some of the shares. However, those who applied for more than 300 shares will get fewer than they sought. Those who applied for 400 receive 315, 500 get 330, 600 get 360, 700 get 390, 800 get 420, 900 get 450, 1,000 get 480, 1,500 get 495, 2,000 get 510.

All Pep applicants in the UK retail tender will get the shares for which they applied. All other applicants in this tender, which had a minimum investment of £3,000, will be allocated 1,000 shares.

Many small shareholders sold their shares immediately, before they received notice of their allocation. This was risky, although your share shop should be able to give you details your exact allocation. Refunds for those who applied for shares but did not get their full allocation will be dealt with by the share shops.

Railtrack shareholders have 42 days to put their shares into a Pep. They do not have to sell the shares and buy them back to do this. Stockbrokers say that investors should shop around to find the cheapest and most flexible Pep providers.



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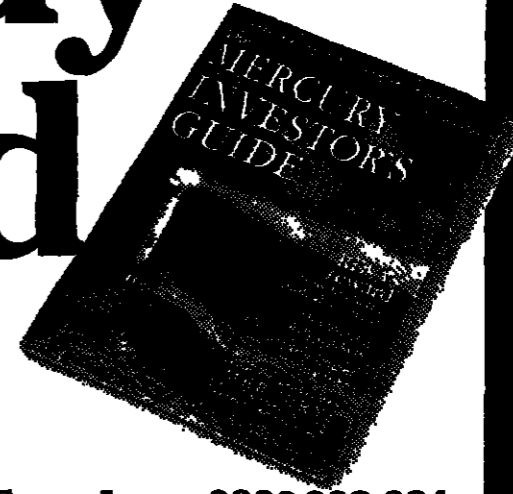
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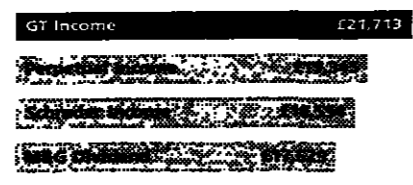
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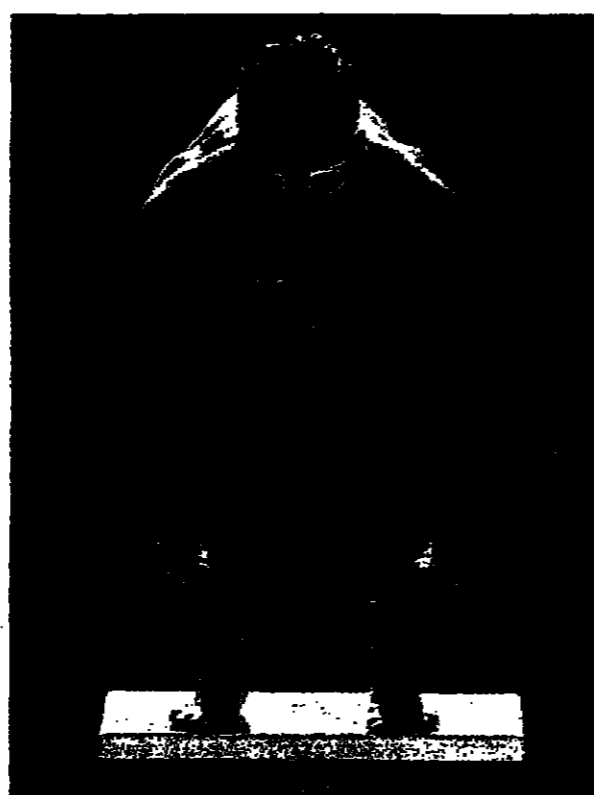
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## Caroline Merrell on the industry's lack of openness



Disclosure was a hit for Demi Moore, but Britain's leading insurance companies are not too keen on the concept

## Insurers that fear to reveal charges

Amid much self-congratulation, 18 months ago the life insurance industry declared to the world that, at last, it was coming clean about its charges. Under the new disclosure regime, they would reveal the considerable sums they deduct from premiums to pay administrative expenses and commission to intermediaries, deductions that have an impact on the return from an investment.

In spite of these assurances, however, the spirit of openness has yet to permeate the industry,

as this week's *Money Marketing* survey reveals. The survey, the first major analysis of the charges and performance of with-profits endowment and pensions policies since the introduction of the new disclosure rules, asked the 54 companies that run with-profits funds for details.

Of the 54 only 37 opted to give a full set of figures. Many of the household names that refused to give figures said they no longer offered with-profits policies. Unfortunately, this is of little comfort to the millions of policyholders insured by these companies.

Moreover, the survey, which covers endowment policies and pension plans, also found that charges are rising and not falling, as was hoped. The life insurers that refused to give details included Scottish Equitable and NPI. John Jenkins, an actuary with

KPMG, the actuaries firm that helped to compile the survey, called for a statutory requirement on all companies to disclose figures.

One of the biggest surprises was that Prudential, the UK's biggest pension office, showed the poorest projected performance on its personal pension. This can be attributed to its high charges, which will cut the annual returns on its policy by 2.5 per cent. The projected return on a Pru pension taken out by a 29-year-old paying £100 a month would be £183,502 — £63,498 less than the best projection.

Robert Higginbottom, head of savings and investment, said: "Our costs are being brought down gradually. Our past investment performance is good."

Copies of the survey, price £3.75, may be obtained by calling 0171-292 3707.

### HOW RISING COSTS HIT HOME

■ ONE of the main aims of the new disclosure regime was to try to force companies to cut costs. In reality, the reverse is true. The survey found that the average expenses on both life and pension policies were rising. For instance, the costs on a 25-year personal pension five years ago would cut the annual returns by 1.5 per cent. This means that if the fund grew by 9 per cent a year, charges would reduce this to 7.5 per cent. The survey found that this 1.5 per cent figure has grown to 1.8 per cent this year. On endowments this figure has grown from 1.1 to 1.4 per cent.

■ THE BEST projected pension performers included Medical Sickness with a projected payout of £247,000 on a £100 month policy taken out by a 29-year-old.

Other good performers included Equitable Life with a sum of £241,076, Scottish Equitable with £236,100, RNPFN with £235,435, and Clerical Medical with £235,363.

Poorest performers were the Prudential with £183,502, Axa Equity & Law with £186,000, Royal London with £193,333 and Guardian Financial with £196,279.

### THE BE

THE best performance on a 25-year £20 per month endowment policy, taken out by a 29-year old non-smoking male, was shown by the Royal National Pension Fund for Nurses. Total payout on this policy reached £45,789. Second place was taken by Royal Insurance, which paid out £45,313, third in performance terms was Wesleyan Assurance with a payout of £44,693. Other top performers included General Accident with £44,243, Commercial Union with £43,709, Tumbidge Wells with £43,269, Royal London with £41,662, Clerical Medical with £41,643, AXA Equity & Law with £41,410 and Legal & General with £41,100.

These figures compared with an average payout of £38,882 and a lowest payout of £30,260, making the difference between the top performing fund and bottom performing fund £14,578.

The poorest performers included Colonial with £30,260, Sun Life with £31,981, and Britannia Life with £33,887. Scottish Amicable and Norwich Union, two household names, also came close to the bottom with payouts of £36,738 and £36,791 respectively.

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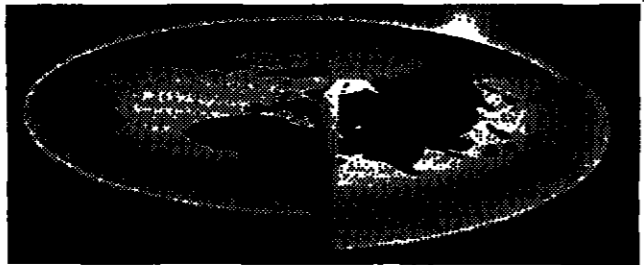
**JAPAN SMALLER COMPANIES FUND** Capital growth. Principally investing in companies quoted on the Second Section of the Tokyo and Osaka Stock Exchanges. Launch date: 26 November 1990. **+82.6%**

**ASIAN CURRENCY & BOND FUND** Income and capital growth. Principally investing in fixed and floating rate securities denominated in Asian currencies and US Dollars. Launch date: 31 December 1993. **+18.4%**

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\*Source: Micropal. Offer to offer, gross income reinvested to 15.96% in Sterling. Five year performance: ASEAN: +195.9%; Hong Kong: +271.7%; Japan & Pacific: +107.8%; Japan: +32.5%; Japan Smaller Companies: +18.6%. \*\*ASEAN sector performance over 5 years to 15.96% p.a. All funds, except the China and Madras Indian Equity funds, are sub-funds of the Guinness Flight Global Strategy Fund Limited, a Guernsey-based umbrella fund. Minimum investment per fund: £5,000. The China and Madras Indian Equity funds are sub-funds of Guinness Flight Select Funds PLC, a Dublin-based umbrella fund. Minimum investment: £5,000. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to the future. Fluctuations in the value of the underlying securities and the income from them and changes in interest and exchange rates mean that the value of these investments and the income arising from them may fall as well as rise and is not guaranteed. Investors should also be aware of the above average volatility associated with many developing markets. Issued by Guinness Flight Global Asset Management Limited, regulated by FIMD and the Personal Investment Authority.

An overweight position in the trust sector is being urged, Robert Miller says

## Investment team sees Blair forming next government

In City circles Tony Blair's new Labour needs investment credibility more than votes. And yesterday he received, if not a ringing endorsement, then at least an acknowledgement that he will form the next government.

The decision by Credit Lyonnais Laing (CLL) to feature Mr Blair and his Shadow Cabinet at an airport arrival gateway — John Major, Michael Heseltine and Kenneth Clarke are making for the departure gate — on the cover of their 1996 Investment Trust Year Book was not taken lightly.

In their annual preview — Don't Panic — the CLL investment trust team say: "We are as certain as we can be that the Labour Party will form the next UK government. In consequence, we believe that investors should now be concentrating on political certainty rather than political uncertainty and positioning their portfolios accordingly."

The authors admit that their decision to go out on a limb and risk wrongfooting investment trust investors is a risky one. They say: "The decision to pin our colours to the mast in such a high-profile fashion has not been taken lightly. Whilst we have the utmost confidence in our stance, we still run the risk of incurring widespread ridicule if we are wrong."

In looking at the implications of its views for private investors, CLL says: "Our medium-term strategy for investment trusts is formulated on the political certainty of a Labour government. Based on this assumption we recommend that investors move to an overweight position in the investment trust sector in the expectation of significant outperformance relative to the FT-SE all-share index."

The CLL team says that in the first place realigning portfolio weights is a hedge against political risk because "although we have already disregarded political uncertainty as a factor this does not mean that the UK financial markets have fully discounted a change of government". CLL argues that while the UK



Tony Blair figures on the cover of Credit Lyonnais Laing's Investment Trust Year Book

economic environment remains favourable and there may still be scope for an interest rate cut (note the use of the singular), the markets will have to contend with the impact of change. "Rightly or wrongly," says CLL, "the performance of the domestic

markets will be constrained. In consequence, our UK equity strategists expect the UK market to rise only very modestly in 1996 and the Footsie to end the year at around 3,750. We do not believe that this target, which is around the current level of the market, will be

reached in an orderly manner." In the short term, CLL says the index "is vulnerable to a correction of between 150 and 250 points in the short term".

CLL argues that in the eyes of international investors the nearer the British general

election approaches, the greater the pressure on sterling. In this scenario, the authors believe that investment trusts should be a natural hedge because more than 50 per cent of their exposure is to assets that are denominated in overseas currencies.

Taking the CLL argument further, investment trusts have a near 40 per cent exposure to overseas stock markets, which are most likely to be boosted by international capital flows seeking higher returns than those expected in the US and the UK. The "buy" list features the emerging markets of Latin America and the Far East together with Japan and continental Europe. CLL says: "Each of these areas are well represented in the investment trust sector through specialist trusts and increasingly within the portfolios of the internationally diversified trusts."

If you do consider a realignment of your portfolio broadly along the lines suggested by CLL you will need to gauge the relative performance of the trusts on your shortlist. The generally accepted yardsticks that may help to whittle down the choice is how the chosen trusts have performed against other similar trusts. An acceptable performance level is to at least match the average of like-minded investment trusts and preferably to do slightly better over consistent time periods of, say, one, three and five years.

On performance, CLL believes there are additional profits to be had from corporate activity in the investment trust sector. They say: "Activity will continue to feature the strong preying on the weak and investors should welcome the acquisition of poorly managed trusts, provided a cash alternative is made available."

It would be fair to say, however, that the investment and market fundamentals of selecting a suitable trust with a medium to long-term view, or a specific aim in mind such as school or university fees, should not be confused with the potential profits to be had from takeover activity.

## Last post for Hinckley High Rise accounts

Another building society has moved to close accounts summarily and return cash to investors, following the example of National Counties. As we reported earlier this month, National Counties is turning away those who have opened accounts with small amounts since the start of the year.

Now Hinckley & Rugby has written to savers in its High Rise Share account, informing them that these accounts can no longer be operated by post. If they do not wish to transfer their money into one of the society's Post Haste accounts, their High Rise

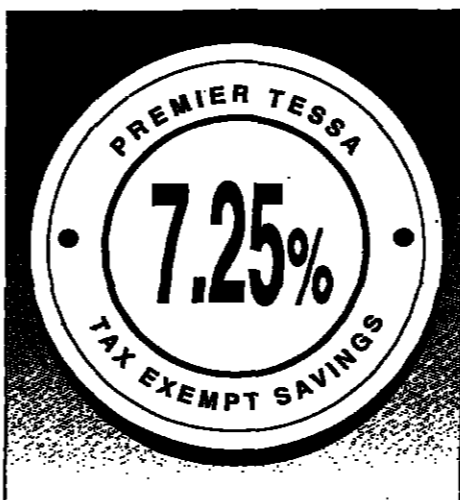
accounts will be closed on May 31. The reason for the society's action is not entirely clear. It does not seem to be linked with any wish to deter speculators, the motive for the National Counties' decision to close accounts. Hinckley & Rugby denied that it was the society's wish to turn away savers who lived outside its Midlands branch area, although the letter sent to

investors mentions that they "do not live within easy reach of one of the society's branches". The notice of closure prompted several Hinckley & Rugby savers to contact *The Times*. Some pointed out that they did not have a spare £1,000, the amount required to open a Post Haste account. At its annual meeting this week, the

that it would be floating on the stock market next summer, following a February vote on its conversion move. Some of the assembled members had complained that they were being made to wait too long for their free shares. Those who object to the £1.3 billion Abbey National's takeover of the National & Provincial will have their last opportunity on June 3 when the deal goes for final approval by the Building Societies Commission, the industry watchdog. The hearing is likely, however, to be a mere formality.

ANNE ASHWORTH

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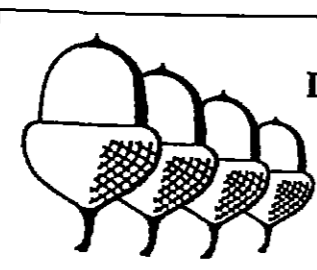
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# As temptations go, high yields can flatter to deceive

Helen Pridham offers a concise guide to selecting an appropriate income trust



A GUIDE TO INVESTMENT & UNIT TRUSTS  
PART 2

Savers leaving building societies in search of better returns are increasingly looking to income trusts. This week, we explain how to choose from the huge choice available.

The most common mistake made by building society investors considering income funds is to use the yield as their main yardstick for choice. Peter Edwards of Premier Unit Trust Brokers in Bristol, says: "So if they see a fund advertising an 8 per cent yield, they tend to feel they are getting a better deal than one yielding 4 per cent. A high yielding trust may be appropriate for some investors but they need to know exactly what they are doing."

The main types are:

### Unit Trusts

**Equity Income Funds:** These invest in high-yielding UK shares. At present, they are typically quoting gross yields of between 4 and 5.5 per cent. They pay out an income twice or four times a year. Their aim is to provide a rising income and historically they have also generated capital growth, so the total return growth is much higher than the yield.

Over the past year, for example, total returns on equity income funds have averaged over 11 per cent; over three years they were 38 per cent. These funds are suitable for investors who have a long-term need for income, such as those in their sixties (see "White List" below for the best).

**Corporate Bond Funds:** The income from these trusts, which invest in bonds issued by companies, is significantly higher than that available on equity income funds. They are currently offering yields of 7 to 8 per cent, but the scope for capital growth is limited. Average total returns over the past three years have been

15.5 per cent. They are most attractive to people who have a real need for high immediate income. When choosing a corporate bond fund, the charges are the key. Jason Holland of financial advisers, BEST Investment, says: "The difference in performance between the best and worst bond funds is small, so differences in charges are highly significant." BEST Investment recommends the Guinness Flight Value Bond fund and Virgin's Income fund.

### Investment Trusts

**Conventional trusts:** Many investors overlook established investment trusts as a source of income. Yet the income growth trusts (the equivalent of the equity income unit trusts) have a good record for providing year-on-year increases in dividends and capital growth. They are attractive for longer-term income investors and are currently yielding about 4.5 per cent.

Two trusts that Graham Hooper, of financial advisers Chase de Vere, feels are interesting are Dundedin Income Growth, which has recently been trading at a 9.2 per cent discount and M & G Income units, which has been on an 11 per cent discount.

**Split capital trusts:** Some

investment trusts have special split capital structures which include very high yielding income shares. These shares have running yields of up to about 12 per cent. But investors need to look particularly carefully at what happens to the value of their capital at the end of a trust's life.

The entitlement to income and capital growth from a trust's assets are split between income shareholders and holders of capital shares. Income shareholders get a fixed repayment, which is often less than they have paid for their shares. But these shares can be attractive if held within a PEP, especially for the elderly who do not mind some erosion of capital though advice is essential before investing: as with some income shares the capital loss is greater than with others.

Roger Adams of Warburg points out that income shares in Derby Trust, currently 142p, will be redeemed at only 25p in 2003. But with a running yield of 17 per cent, and a redemption yield of 10.7 per cent, he says they are good value. The White List of best buys from Premier Unit Trust Brokers includes: Jupiter Income, Morgan Grenfell UK Equity Income, Credit Suisse Income, Perpetual Income, Perpetual High Income and M&G Dividend funds.

### CHOOSING AN INCOME PORTFOLIO

NOW available are a range of portfolio services where professional managers choose and invest in a number of trusts on your behalf with the aim of maximising your income and capital growth.

For example, Rothschild offers a unit trust management service and an investment and unit trust service is offered by Lazards. At

Rothschild the minimum investment is £5,000 for a managed income portfolio within a PEP. At Lazards, the minimum is £20,000.

For smaller investors, investment trust group Ivory & Sime offers an investment trust income portfolio service investing in both its own and other managers' trusts starting at just £3,000.



Shopping around: Finding the pick of the crop among investments requires patience, judgment and a seasoning of good professional advice



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For those who would like independent financial advice, Fidelity products are also available through Independent Financial Advisers.

# Is your bank robbing you?

Card	Annual Fee	APR (Purchases)	Cost of borrowing £1000 for a year
Flemings Save & Prosper	Nil	11.5%	£115.71
NatWest Visa	£12	22.9%	£226.12
Midland Visa	£12	22.3%	£220.40
First Direct Visa	£10	19.5%	£195.62
MBNA	Nil	18.9%	£188.75



It's criminal, really. Depending on which credit card you use, you could be paying twice as much as you need to for the privilege.

The Flemings Save & Prosper card offers you a low rate of interest and there is no annual fee. In fact, it offers the lowest interest rate of any card without a fee. You also receive monthly statements, a

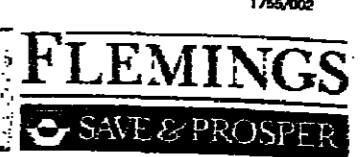
chequebook which you can use to pay off your other credit cards and storecards, and a choice of Visa and Mastercard.

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Further information: APR - annual percentage rate of charge. The APR for cash advances is 14% which includes a flat charge of 1.5% of the amount withdrawn (minimum £2.00). The rates of interest as quoted above may be subject to variation. The cardholder is required to make monthly payments within 25 days of statement and not less than 5% of the total amount shown on the statement to be due or £5, whichever is the greater for the amount due if less than £5. The cardholder may use the card only within the credit limit set by Robert Fleming & Co Limited (registered office 25 Copthall Avenue, London EC2R 7DR) which issues cards as principal. Save & Prosper Group Limited acts as its agent and is a licensed credit broker under the Consumer Credit Act.

# A helping hand for homebuyers

The Office of Fair Trading has produced three free booklets on mortgages, estate agents and debt. *Your Mortgage* is a guide to the different types of repayment methods available and explains the factors that should be considered in your choice of mortgage whether as a first-time buyer or as an existing borrower moving house. These include tax incentives, the charges and penalties within particular policies, and investment risk.

Using an Estate Agent explains the process of both buying and selling a property and advises on contracts, charges, selling rights, making an offer, repossessed properties, gazumping, deposits, valuations and legal matters.

*Debt: What to do when the bills pile up* provides an action plan for overcoming debt. The guide offers advice on tackling harassment from creditors, extortionate credit and what to do if creditors want to take you to court.

For copies of the booklets, write to The Office of Fair Trading, PO Box 2, Central Way, Feltham, Middlesex TW14 0TJ.

Age Concern has published an updated guide to state, occupational and personal pensions. *The Pensions Handbook 1996-97* - A mid-career guide to improving retirement income explains the changing legal framework and new rules affecting pensions. The guide is aimed at those in mid-

life who are keen to improve their pension arrangements. The specific issues addressed are pension issues for women, deferred withdrawal, pension safety, changing employment, mis-selling of personal pensions and the Pensions Act. Send a cheque/PO for £5.95 to Age Concern England, 1268 London Road, London SW16 4ER.

Allied Dunbar, the insurance and investment company, has published its *Tax Handbook* for 1996-97. It suggests how to minimise tax payments and maximise wealth and gives up-to-date information on the current tax laws. The handbook also provides extensive coverage of the implications of self-assessment, as well as VAT, corporation tax, capital gains tax, inheritance tax, income tax, stamp duty and National Insurance contributions. Copies are available from bookshops, priced £24.99.

BESTInvestments' May 1996 *Tax Shelter Bulletin*, which includes a 1995-96 tax year end review is now available. The bulletin highlights the expansion of the market for tax-shelter investments last year, almost entirely due to the introduction of Venture Capital Trusts, which raised more than £150 million. For subscriptions, call BestInvestment on 0171 321 0100.

LIZANNE ROSE

## GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS

ANNUAL INCOME Rates as at May 23, 1996			
Investment (£)	Company	Standard Rate (%)	
1 Year			
5,000	AIG Life	5.05	
10,000	AIG Life	5.10	
20,000	AIG Life	5.25	
50,000	AIG Life	5.35	
2 Years			
3,000	Pinnacle Insur	5.70	
20,000	Financial Assur	5.80	
50,000	Financial Assur	5.90	
3 Years			
3,000	Pinnacle Insur	6.10	
50,000	AIG Life	6.48	
4 Years			
3,000	Pinnacle Insur	6.40	
5 Years			
1,000	Premium Life	5.55	
3,000	Pinnacle Insur	6.75	
15,000	Abbey Life	6.80	
50,000	Abbey Life	7.00	

Source: Chamberlain de Broit 0171-434 4222. Net rates. Income and capital guaranteed. After surrender. Terms vary. Monthly income may be available.

## SAVERS' BEST BUYS

Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Instant Access Accounts				
Portman BS 01202 282444	Instant Acc	£100	4.80	Y/y
Alliance & Leicester 0845 645660	Instant Direct	£5,000	5.40	Y/y
Bristol & West BS 0800 901109	Inst Acc Post	£10,000	6.75	Y/y
Northern Rock BS 0500 505000	Gt Nth Postal	£25,000	6.50	AY/y

**NOTICE ACCOUNTS & BONDS**

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Coventry BS 0345 665522  
First National BS 0800 558844  
Chelsea BS 0800 132351  
Nottingham BS 0115 9564422

Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
FIRST TESSAS (TAX FREE)				
NatWest Bank 0800 200400	5 year	£5,000	7.45	F/Y/y
Sun Banking Corp 01438 744505	5 year	£9,575	7.40	F/Y/y
Birmingham Midshires 0845 720721	5 year	£1,000	7.25	Y/y
Principality BS 01222 344188	5 year	£500	7.00	Y/y

## CREDIT CARDS BEST BUYS

Credit Cards	Card type	Interest per month	APR%	Fee per annum
Robert Fleming/S&P 0800 829024	MasterCard/Visa	0.92%K	11.50%	N/A
NatWest Bank 0800 200400	MasterCard/Visa	0.95%K	12.00%K	N/A
Robert Fleming/S&P 0800 829024	MasterCard/Visa	1.00%	14.00%	£12

## PERSONAL LOANS BEST BUYS

Personal Loans	APR	Monthly payment on £3,000 for 3yrs with insurance	Monthly payment on £3,000 for 3yrs no insurance
Direct Line 0141 2498985	13.90%	£112.86	£101.33
Yorkshire Bank 0345 181920	14.50%	£117.68	£102.09
Midland 0800 180180	14.90%	£115.82	£102.49

N.B. A = All withdrawals subject to 30 day notice of interest. C = no interest free period. E = Available to comprehensive motor insurance policy holders over 25 years. F = Fixed Rate (all other rates variable). N = Introductory rate for a limited period. P = By Post only.

\* RATES SHOWN ARE GROSS AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE. PLEASE CHECK RATES BEFORE INVESTING.

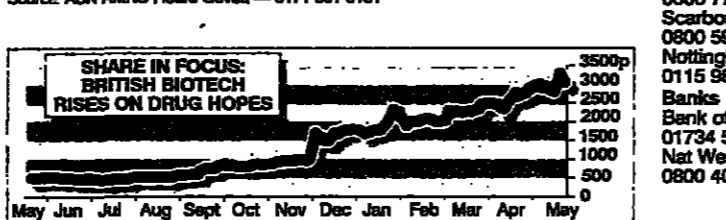
Source: Moneyfacts, the Monthly Guide to Investment & Mortgage Rates (01682 501 577)

## PIBS

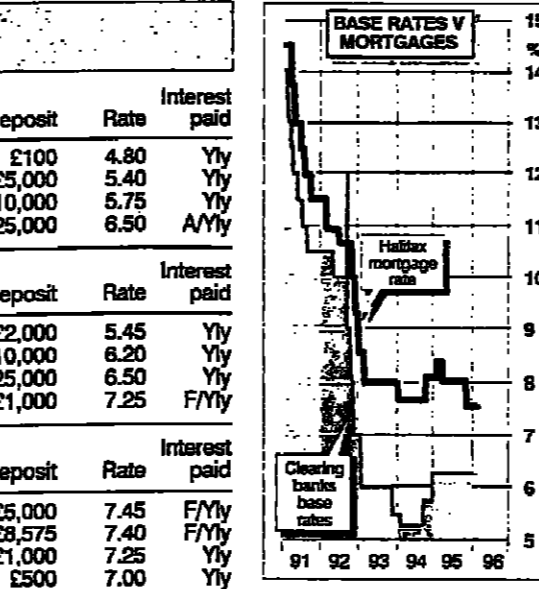
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Birmingham Midshires	9.375%	100.25	9.381	100.17	1,000	Building
Bradford & Bingley	11.625%	119.39	9.728	100.13	10,000	Bristol
Bradford & Bingley	13.000%	133.87	9.711	100.20	10,000	0800 45
Bristol & West	13.875%	139.07	9.817	100.34	1,000	Alliance
Britannia	13.000%	133.97	9.704	100.42	1,000	0118 272
Coventry	12.125%	125.46	9.640	100.75	1,000	Northern
First National	11.750%	116.60	10.064	100.25	10,000	0800 55
Halifax	8.750%	92.61	9.448	100.82	50,000	Bankia
Halifax	12.000%	124.48	9.441	100.28	50,000	Net Web
Halifax	13.625%	142.70	9.548	100.00	50,000	0800 44
Leeds & Holbeck	13.375%	139.17	9.811	100.23	1,000	Barclay
Newcastle	10.750%	107.50	9.382	100.32	1,000	0800 00
Newcastle	12.625%	134.11	9.414	100.45	1,000	
Northern Rock	12.625%	135.71	9.284	100.14	1,000	
Skipdon	12.875%	134.18	9.595	100.48	1,000	

Floating Rate	Gross coupon	Buying price	Issue price	Minimum purchase
Cheshire (28/09-21/03) 8.56750%		103.63	100.00	1,000
First Nat (20/03-20/09) 8.70825%		100.63	100.00	1,000

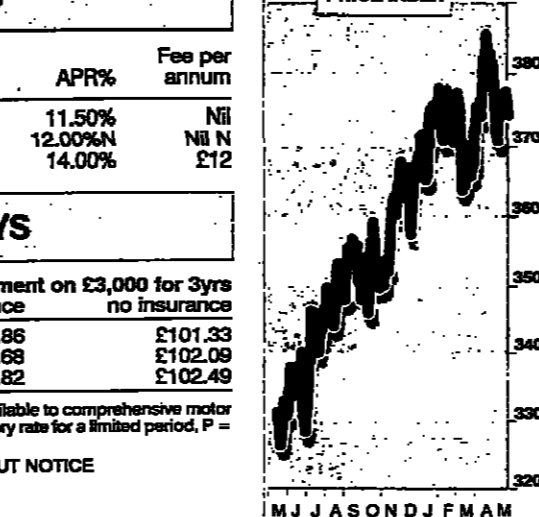
PIBS = Permanent Interest-bearing shares. Source: ABN AMRO House Govett - 0171 801 0101



SHARE IN FOCUS: BRITISH BUCHANAN RISES ON DRUG HOPES



FTSE 100 PRICE INDEX



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## LARGER LENDERS

Lender	Interest rate	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Bristol & West	0.70	£15k+	90	Fixed to 30.4.97
0800 680808				
Alliance & Leicester	1.50	to £150k	95	Fixed to 1.4.97
0116 2726269				
Northern Rock	0.89	£100-150k	75	High Equity dis
0800 591 500				6.4% to 1.5.97
Banks				
Nat West Home Loan	1.75	£15k+	90	5.50% discount
0800 400989				
Barclays	3.50	£15k+	90	3.75% discount
0800 000929				for 12 months

## LARGER LOANS

Lender	Interest rate	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Hickley & Rugby	0.11	£1-150k	70	7.14% discount
0800 774499				for 9 months
Scarborough	0.05	to £150k	70	Super Fix Rate
0800 550547				for 12 months
Nottingham Imperial	0.49	£15k+	75	Fixed to 31.7.97
0115 981 7220				
Banks				
Bank of Ireland	0.99	£20-145k	95	6.50% disc-6 mth
01734 510100				3% disc-6 mth
NatWest	1.75	£15k+	95	3% disc-6 mth
0800 400989				for 12 months

NATIONAL SAVINGS									
Gross rate	At tax rates 20%	40%	Min/maximum investment £	Notice	Contact				
Ordinary A/c	1.75	1.40	1.05	10-10,000**	1mth	0645 845000			
Investment A/c	5.00	4.00	3.00	20-500**	3mth	0645 845000			
Income Bond*	6.25	5.00	3,750-20,000**	1mth	0645 845000				
First Opt Bonds	6.25	5.00	3,750-20,000**	1mth	0645 845000				
43rd Issue Certifs	5.35			100-10,000	8day	0645 845000			
Children's Bonds	6.75			25-1,000	1mth	0645 845000			
Gen Est Rate	3.51					0645 845000			
Capital Bonds	6.65	5.32	3.99	100-250,000	8day	0645 845000			
9th Index Linkeds	2.50			100-10,000	8day	0645 845000			
Pension Bonds SS	7.00	5.60	4.20	500-50,000	60day	0645 845000			

\* First £70 (£140 if in mth) free, rest across for up to £100. Additional holds up to £20,000 for requested proceeds. \*\* Tax free. \* Rates gross and wide. \*\* Guaranteed when held for 5 years. \* 0.2% net bonus for £20,000. \* £100,000 p in addition to ST and ST savings. \* Taxable but free in full. \*\* Tied rates apply.

## PENSION ANNUITIES

All figures are the gross annual annuity (£100,000 purchase), guaranteed 5 years, paid monthly in advance

SINGLE LIFE (level ann)			
Male:	Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Prudential Level	£10,467	£11,495	£12,883
MGM Assur Level	£10,196	£11,271	£12,737
Canada Life Level	£10,196	£11,271	£12,737
Norwich Un Level	£10,261	£11,221	£12,594
Strand Life Level	£10,136	£11,204	£12,594
SINGLE LIFE			
Female:	Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Norwich Un Level	£9,722	£10,458	£11,549
Prudential Level	£9,710	£10,443	£11,528
MGM Assur Level	£9,458	£10,219	£11,347
Royal Life Level	£9,305	£10,138	£11,364
Sun Lf of Can Level	£9,372	£10,103	£11,185
JOINT LIFE, 2/3 WIDOWS (level annuity)			
Male:	Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Prudential Level	£9,323	£9,895	£10,708
Norwich Un Level	£9,301	£9,847	£10,617
MGM Assur Level	£9,053	£9,670	£10,518
Canada Life Level	£9,026	£9,605	£10,389
Strand Life Level	£9,002	£9,568	£10,378

\* Maximum purchase £100,000. Higher rates for smokers. Source: Annuity Data (0171 529 8350)

Compiled by: Lizanne Rose

## FIRST-TIME BUYERS

Lender	Interest rate	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Bristol & West	0.95	£15k+	95	6.30% disc 6 mth
0800 680808				2.25% disc 6 mth
Lambeth	3.99	£15-150k	95	3.25% discount
0171 928 1331				for 12 months
Newbury	4.49	£5-150k	95	2.50% discount
01835 43678				for 12 months
Banks				
Bank of Ireland	0.99	£20-145k	95	6.50% disc 6 mth
01734 510100				3% disc 6 mth
TSB Bank	3.51	£15k+	95	3.74% discount
Local branch				for 12 months

Larger lenders, larger loans, and first-time buyers tables supplied by Blays Guides, 01753 880482.

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OVERLINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS											
Ins	Offer	Wtd	Yld	Ins	Offer	Wtd	Yld	Ins	Offer	Wtd	Yld
<b>AEON LIFE ASSURANCE</b>											
AEON Life	£100,000	1.00	1.00	AEON Life	£100,000	1.00	1.00	AEON Life	£100,000	1.00	1.00
<b>ALLIANCE &amp; LEICESTER</b>											
Alliance & Leicester	£100,000	1.00	1.00	Alliance & Leicester	£100,000	1.00	1.00	Alliance & Leicester	£100,000	1.00	1.00
<b>ALLIANCE &amp; LEICESTER</b>											
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Alliance & Leicester	£100,000	1.00	1.00	Alliance & Leicester	£100,000	1.00	1.00	Alliance & Leicester	£100,000	1.00	1.00
<b>ALLIANCE &amp; LEICESTER</b>											
Alliance & Leicester	£100,000	1.00	1.00	Alliance & Leicester	£100,000	1.00	1.00	Alliance & Leicester			

WEEKEND MONEY LETTERS

Slowness of Halifax conversion is causing hardship

From Mr Serge Lourie

Sir, At the annual general meeting of the Halifax Building Society, held this week, members questioned the board on why the proposed vote on conversion to bank status was taking so long, but to no avail.

This is admittedly a very complex transaction, but the proposed takeover of the Leeds and conversion were announced as long ago as November 1994 and the merger took place on August 1, 1995. We simply do not believe that it should take over two years and three months to prepare for a vote in February 1997 with possible conversion in the summer of 1997.

It is clear that many investors, especially in Peps, are still locked into the society and suffering financial hardship. I have heard from older investors who are reluctant to spend their savings because they wish to receive their issue of shares. The society is inflexible in its progress to the vote, and all that we are ever told is that "it is all very complicated".

We are also concerned that, in spite of considerable prodding from investors and from the Halifax Action Group, the board refuses to give any real indication of the basis of the allocation of shares between the "fixed" and "variable" distributions, leaving investors unclear on what they can expect if conversion were to be agreed.

There is a high degree of unease about the whole pro-

cess, which was reflected at the AGM in members' questions. It also explains why Peter Judge and I did substantially better than last year in elections to the board, securing more than 385,000 votes between us. If the voting were by ballot, as allowed by the Building Societies Act and the

rules of the society, rather than by proxy, I am confident that we would have done substantially better and had a good chance of winning. Yours faithfully, SERGE LOURIE, Halifax Action Group, 50 Burlington Avenue, Richmond, Surrey.

Sids still wanted by British Gas

From the Chairman, British Gas

Sir, There is one comment in your well-researched and well-argued article on British Gas ("Sids left cold by prospect of price curbs", Weekend Money, May 18) which needs to be clarified. Far from trying to "rid the company of Sids", the Board of British Gas is most anxious that they remain shareholders and support the company in its efforts to dissuade Olgas from expropriating their income.

What we have said is that if our demerger goes ahead and any shareholder wants to remain in what is known cur-

rently as TransCo International rather than have an additional share certificate for what is known as British Gas Energy, which would be unlikely to pay a dividend in the short term, then we will look at ways of allowing small shareholders to sell shares in British Gas Energy at no cost. In the meantime, any British Gas shareholders wishing to express their opinion on Olgas's proposals during the current consultation period should write to Olgas.

Yours truly, RICHARD GIORDANO, British Gas, The Adelphi, 1-11 John Adam Street, WC2.

Performance of friendly societies

From Mr S. E. Maitland

Sir, With reference to the article "Friendly societies lose some friends" (May 18) apropos the disappointing performance of friendly societies due to their high management fees, it is of interest to note that Family Assurance has just raised its charges.

At a time when managers of Peps and unit trusts are reduc-

ing their charges, this increase does seem rather inappropriate. I have been contributing to the Family Managed Performance Fund for six years and the growth rate has been just 3 per cent per annum on a bid/offer basis. Yours faithfully, S. E. MAITLAND, Ham Cottage, Milford Road, Elstead, Surrey.

Sunshine all the way with Florida bank

From Mr Melville Bernstein

Sir, Is Richard Thomson ("American dream or a nightmare for customers?", Weekend Money, May 18) living in the same land that I do?

My US account is with Great Western, a very large Californian bank with an extensive branch network in eastern Florida.

Free banking if I'm in credit, no charge for ATM withdrawals from their own machines, very clear, detailed monthly statements emailed to the UK at no charge, including returned cheques. Free phone calls to the Californian computer centre with almost-human voices giving me the alternatives (in English or Spanish) of last five cheques, last five deposits, current balance, details of a specific cheque and more.

My telephone and electric power bills are paid automatically every month; even though it's not called Direct Debit, Automatic Funds Transfer is the expression they use, but it's still automatic payment of varying amounts at fixed intervals.

Lloyds have been my UK bankers for more years than I care to remember. They don't yet offer the same service as my US bank, and certainly are smarter at charging fees than their US counterparts. Their only advantage is free cheques, but Great Western



G&D

Bank's fee for cheques works out at around \$5 annually for the number of cheques that I use.

Maybe it's time for Richard Thomson to change banks.

Yours sincerely, MELVILLE BERNSTEIN, Daryl Industries Limited, Alfred Road, Wallasey, Wirral.

The branch that puts ladies first

From Mrs Shelagh Addis

Sir, Three cheers for Lloyds Bank in England's smallest city. My late husband and I had a joint account which put my name first - Mrs S.A. and A.P.S. Addis - and all correspondence was thus addressed. Yours faithfully, SHELAGH ADDIS, 84 St Thomas Street, Wells, Somerset.

Letters to the Weekend Money section of The Times can be sent by fax on 0171-782 5082.

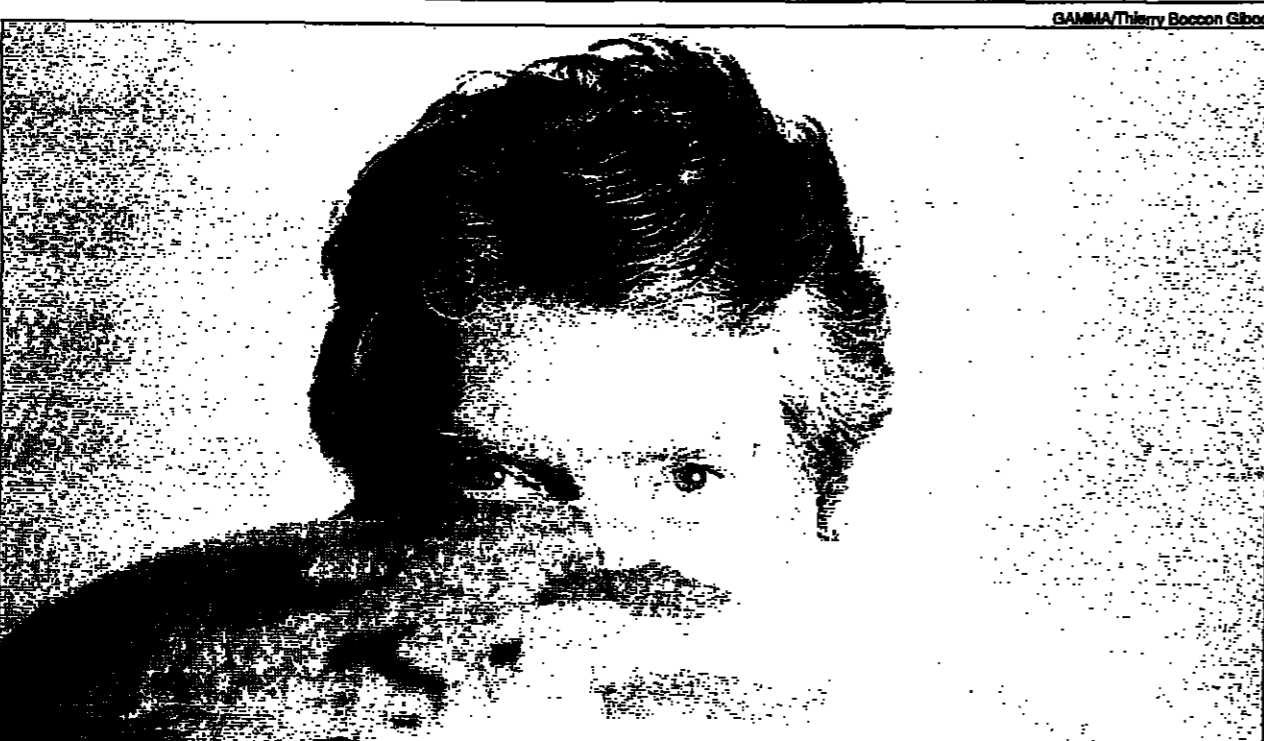
APRIL CGT ALLOWANCES

THE INDEXED RISE FOR CALCULATING THE INDEXATION ALLOWANCE ON ASSETS THAT WERE DISPOSED OF IN APRIL 1996

Month purchased	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988
January	-	0.847	0.757	0.673	0.585	0.526	0.477
February	-	0.839	0.750	0.660	0.580	0.520	0.472
March	0.921	0.836	0.744	0.644	0.578	0.517	0.466
April	0.883	0.811	0.721	0.610	0.562	0.499	0.442
May	0.870	0.803	0.715	0.603	0.560	0.498	0.437
June	0.864	0.789	0.711	0.599	0.560	0.498	0.432
July	0.864	0.789	0.713	0.602	0.565	0.499	0.430
August	0.863	0.781	0.697	0.598	0.560	0.495	0.414
September	0.864	0.773	0.693	0.599	0.552	0.490	0.408
October	0.855	0.767	0.683	0.598	0.550	0.483	0.394
November	0.846	0.761	0.678	0.591	0.537	0.476	0.387
December	0.849	0.756	0.679	0.589	0.532	0.477	0.383

	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
January	0.375	0.277	0.172	0.125	0.107	0.080	0.045	0.016
February	0.365	0.270	0.166	0.120	0.099	0.074	0.039	0.011
March	0.359	0.257	0.161	0.118	0.095	0.071	0.035	0.007
April	0.355	0.220	0.147	0.099	0.085	0.058	0.024	-
May	0.327	0.209	0.143	0.095	0.082	0.055	0.020	-
June	0.322	0.204	0.138	0.095	0.082	0.055	0.019	-
July	0.321	0.203	0.141	0.099	0.085	0.060	0.023	-
August	0.318	0.191	0.138	0.099	0.080	0.055	0.018	-
September	0.309	0.180	0.134	0.095	0.075	0.052	0.013	-
October	0.299	0.171	0.130	0.091	0.076	0.051	0.019	-
November	0.288	0.174	0.125	0.092	0.078	0.050	0.019	-
December	0.285	0.175	0.125	0.098	0.075	0.045	0.013	-

The 1st month for disposals by individuals on or after April 6, 1985 (April 1, 1985 for companies) is the month in which the allowable expenditure was incurred, or March 1982 where the expenditure was incurred before that month.



Brave new world: Richard Branson's Virgin Direct will widen the choice for consumers seeking life insurance - but at a price

Cherry-picking with Virgin

Could you in the future be buying the Marks & Spencer Pep, the Sony home insurance plan and the Sainsbury mortgage?

Further evidence that big name brands are muscling in on the personal finance sector came this week with the launch of life and critical illness insurance from Virgin Direct, the financial services arm of Richard Branson's Virgin Group.

Virgin Direct is hoping to imitate the success of its personal equity plan operation with the launch of a low-cost life insurance company.

Initially, it will sell the products to the 70,000 people who have taken out Peps with Virgin Direct, but it will follow up with a full launch on June 9. Virgin is not the only company to think of using its well-recognised brand name to diversify into investments and financial services. Marks & Spencer offers life insurance and personal pensions; Volkswagen is looking at the possibility of selling motor insurance; Direct Line has expanded into mortgage services; and Tesco is believed to have banking ambitions.

Nic Round, an independent financial adviser, said: "Virgin will charge lower premiums, and this launch will help give

Marianne Curphey on the move by name brands into financial services

consumers choice and increase quality of products and services offered by advisers. "However, Virgin says the products will be tailored to suit individual needs. This is cherry picking and, taken to the extreme, means it will prefer to insure only those in excellent health." He also pointed out

that many people could obtain life cover far more cheaply by attaching it to a personal pension and getting tax relief on the premiums paid.

Mark Bolland, of Chamberlain de Broc, said: "The problem with buying products by telephone is that you have to be absolutely clear about what

you are buying and what type of insurance you want. Telephone sellers are not qualified to give callers financial advice."

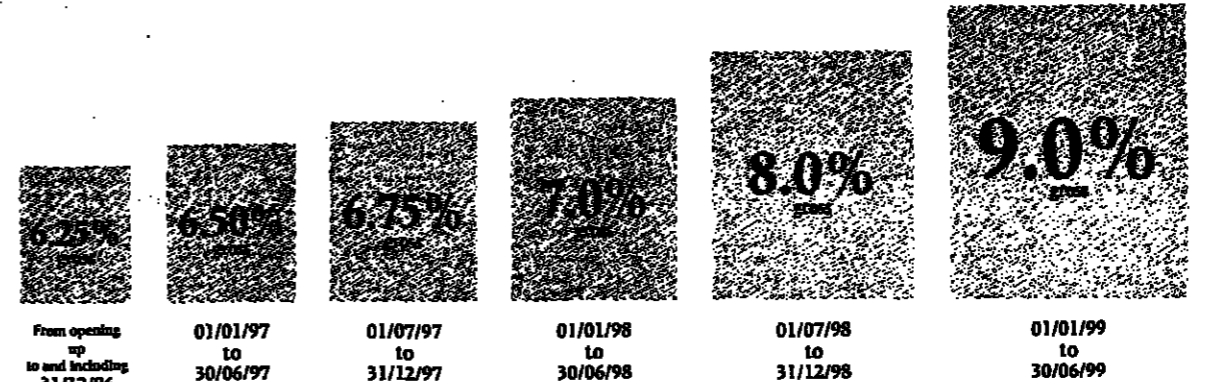
Mr Bolland counsels caution when choosing these products. Do you, for example, want a policy which is renewed every ten years, or do you want one which can be converted into a whole-of-life policy to ensure that you will always be able to obtain life cover, even if you have had a serious illness?

HOW VIRGIN PRODUCTS COMPARE			
10-year term assurance for £100,000.		Critical illness, £100,000, term 10 years.	
Female non-smoker aged 29 next birthday:		Female non-smoker aged 29 next birthday:	
	per month		per month
Virgin Direct	£8.30	Virgin Direct	£10.78
General Accident	£8.90	Legal & General	£13.87
Century Life plc	£7.50	Allied Dunbar	£16.22
Legal & General	£8.00	Canada Life	£18.10
Scottish Widows	£8.00	Zurich Life	£24.10
Zurich Life	£8.19	Swiss Life	£25.85
Norwich Union	£12.20	Royal Insurance	£27.34
Male smoker aged 50 next birthday:		Male smoker aged 50 next birthday:	
	per month		per month
SA Progress	£58.80	Virgin Direct	£58.80
Virgin Direct	£54.81	Legal & General	£148.33
Century Life	£71.49	Canada Life	£182.80
Crowe Life	£72.80	Swiss Life	£174.78
Lutine Assurance	£73.23	Zurich Life	£206.50
Permanent	£102.70	Allied Dunbar	£214.22
Chelmer Medical	£107.70	Royal Insurance	£236.38
General Accident			

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Please tick appropriate box: Please send further details of a Derbyshire Peak Bond Issue 3 account ☐. I/we enclose a cheque for £ (min £5000) made payable to Derbyshire Building Society to be invested in a Derbyshire Peak Bond Issue 3 account ☐.

Full name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Please note: We will send you an investment account opening form when acknowledging your cheque. Post to Derbyshire Building Society, FREEPOST, Duffield Hall, Duffield, Derby DE56 9BA. (NB Freepost may take up to 3 working days. For a faster delivery you may wish to use first class post.)

Be Derbysure with The Derbyshire

Derbyshire Building Society, Duffield Hall, Duffield, Derby DE56 9AG

Interest will be payable net (after deduction) of income tax at the rate prescribed by law. It will be payable gross (without deduction) where you are able to provide us with an appropriate completed form complying with Inland Revenue regulations. If the tax deducted is greater than your tax liability, you can claim a higher rate taxpayer, you will have to pay additional tax on the interest to cover the difference between the tax deducted and the higher rate tax due. Maximum investment: £250,000 in any one account and £250,000 for any one investor. No additional investments may be made to the account. Further investments may however be made by opening a new account subject to the account terms (provided the limit is still available). Term runs to 30th June 1999 with interest calculated daily from the day following the date of investment payable annually on 30th June commencing 1997. Withdrawals will be allowed only (i) on the death of an account holder or (ii) with a penalty equal to 180 days loss of interest on the amount withdrawn at the interest rate applying to the account, even if this means we have to take money out of your account. Please note Peak Bond is a share investment with Derbyshire Building Society. The Society may elect not to open an account and accept the identity of the proposed investor. Full details are available from Derbyshire Building Society, Duffield Hall, Duffield, Derby DE56 9AG. Any enquiries about the account may be made during normal office hours on 01332 841000.

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Address

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\*This rate is for five year growth or annual income, and is net of basic-rate tax which is not recoverable by non-taxpayers. Rates offer dependent on option chosen. Money invested in a building society is normally easily accessible, and is not generally for a fixed term. If you cash in your NatWest Guaranteed Bond before the end of the chosen term, you could get back less than you invested. National Westminster Bank Plc and Ulster Bank Limited are regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and (PRA), and are members of the NatWest Life and NatWest Unit Trust Marketing Group, and can advise on the life insurance, pensions and unit trust products only of this Marketing Group. The NatWest Guaranteed Bond is provided by National Westminster Life Assurance Limited, which is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority for Investment Business. Calls with NatWest may be monitored/recorded to maintain and improve our service. National Westminster Bank Plc. Registered Number 252027 England. Registered Office: 41 Leadenhall, London EC3A 3BP.

THE TIMES SATURDAY MAY 25 1996

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CONTRIBUTORS

**TRADING PERIOD:** Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

462	200	Imperial	374	31	23	Hay (Smith)	25	0.9	20.2
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499	111	Imperial	374	111	31	Hay (Smith)	25	0.9	20.2
500	111	Imperial	374	111	31	Hay (Smith)	25	0.9	20.2

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	10/83	7/83	4/83	1/83	10/82	7/82	4/82	1/82	10/81	7/81	4/81	1/81	10/80	7/80	4/80	1/80	10/79	7/79	4/79	1/79	10/78	7/78	4/78	1/78	10/77	7/77	4/77	1/77	10/76	7/76	4/76	1/76	10/75	7/75	4/75	1/75	10/74	7/74	4/74	1/74	10/73	7/73	4/73	1/73	10/72	7/72	4/72	1/72	10/71	7/71	4/71	1/71	10/70	7/70	4/70	1/70	10/69	7/69	4/69	1/69	10/68	7/68	4/68	1/68	10/67	7/67	4/67	1/67	10/66	7/66	4/66	1/66	10/65	7/65	4/65	1/65	10/64	7/64	4/64	1/64	10/63	7/63	4/63	1/63	10/62	7/62	4/62	1/62	10/61	7/61	4/61	1/61	10/60	7/60	4/60	1/60	10/59	7/59	4/59	1/59	10/58	7/58	4/58	1/58	10/57	7/57	4/57	1/57	10/56	7/56	4/56	1/56	10/55	7/55	4/55	1/55	10/54	7/54	4/54	1/54	10/53	7/53	4/53	1/53	10/52	7/52	4/52	1/52	10/51	7/51	4/51	1/51	10/50	7/50	4/50	1/50	10/49	7/49	4/49	1/49	10/48	7/48	4/48	1/48	10/47	7/47	4/47	1/47	10/46	7/46	4/46	1/46	10/45	7/45	4/45	1/45	10/44	7/44	4/44	1/44	10/43	7/43	4/43	1/43	10/42	7/42	4/42	1/42	10/41	7/41	4/41	1/41	10/40	7/40	4/40	1/40	10/39	7/39	4/39	1/39	10/38	7/38	4/38	1/38	10/37	7/37	4/37	1/37	10/36	7/36	4/36	1/36	10/35	7/35	4/35	1/35	10/34	7/34	4/34	1/34	10/33	7/33	4/33	1/33	10/32	7/32	4/32	1/32	10/31	7/31	4/31	1/31	10/30	7/30	4/30	1/30	10/29	7/29	4/29	1/29	10/28	7/28	4/28	1/28	10/27	7/27	4/27	1/27	10/26	7/26	4/26	1/26	10/25	7/25	4/25	1/25	10/24	7/24	4/24	1/24	10/23	7/23	4/23	1/23	10/22	7/22	4/22	1/22	10/21	7/21	4/21	1/21	10/20	7/20	4/20	1/20	10/19	7/19	4/19	1/19	10/18	7/18	4/18	1/18	10/17	7/17	4/17	1/17	10/16	7/16	4/16	1/16	10/15	7/15	4/15	1/15	10/14	7/14	4/14	1/14	10/13	7/13	4/13	1/13	10/12	7/12	4/12	1/12	10/11	7/11	4/11	1/11	10/10	7/10	4/10	1/10	10/09	7/09	4/09	1/09	10/08	7/08	4/08	1/08	10/07	7/07	4/07	1/07	10/06	7/06	4/06	1/06	10/05	7/05	4/05	1/05	10/04	7/04	4/04	1/04	10/03	7/03	4/03	1/03	10/02	7/02	4/02	1/02	10/01	7/01	4/01	1/01	10/00	7/00	4/00	1/00	10/99	7/99	4/99	1/99	10/98	7/98	4/98	1/98	10/97	7/97	4/97	1/97	10/96	7/96	4/96	1/96	10/95	7/95	4/95	1/95	10/94	7/94	4/94	1/94	10/93	7/93	4/93	1/93	10/92	7/92	4/92	1/92	10/91	7/91	4/91	1/91	10/90	7/90	4/90	1/90	10/89	7/89	4/89	1/89	10/88	7/88	4/88	1/88	10/87	7/87	4/87	1/87	10/86	7/86	4/86	1/86	10/85	7/85	4/85	1/85	10/84	7/84	4/84	1/84	10/83	7/83	4/83	1/83	10/82	7/82	4/82	1/82	10/81	7/81	4/81	1/81	10/80	7/80	4/80	1/80	10/79	7/79	4/79	1/79	10/78	7/78	4/78	1/78	10/77	7/77	4/77	1/77	10/76	7/76	4/76	1/76	10/75	7/75	4/75	1/75	10/74	7/74	4/74	1/74	10/73	7/73	4/73	1/73	10/72	7/72	4/72	1/72	10/71	7/71	4/71	1/71	10/70	7/70	4/70	1/70	10/69	7/69	4/69	1/69	10/68	7/68	4/68	1/68	10/67	7/67	4/67	1/67	10/66	7/66	4/66	1/66	10/65	7/65	4/65	1/65	10/64	7/64	4/64	1/64	10/63	7/63	4/63	1/63	10/62	7/62	4/62	1/62	10/61	7/61	4/61	1/61	10/60	7/60	4/60	1/60	10/59	7/59	4/59	1/59	10/58	7/58	4/58	1/58	10/57	7/57	4/57	1/57	10/56	7/56	4/56	1/56	10/55	7/55	4/55	1/55	10/54	7/54	4/54	1/54	10/53	7/53	4/53	1/53	10/52	7/52	4/52	1/52	10/51	7/51	4/51	1/51	10/50	7/50	4/50	1/50	10/49	7/49	4/49	1/49	10/48	7/48	4/48	1/48	10/47	7/47	4/47	1/47	10/46	7/46	4/46	1/46	10/45	7/45	4/45	1/45	10/44	7/44	4/44	1/44	10/43	7/43	4/43	1/43	10/42	7/42	4/42	1/42	10/41	7/41	4/41	1/41	10/40	7/40	4/40	1/40	10/39	7/39	4/39	1/39	10/38	7/38	4/38	1/38	10/37	7/37	4/37	1/37	10/36	7/36	4/36	1/36	10/35	7/35	4/35	1/35	10/34	7/34	4/34	1/34	10/33	7/33	4/33	1/33	10/32	7/32	4/32	1/32	10/31	7/31	4/31	1/31	10/30	7/30	4/30	1/30	10/29	7/29	4/29	1/29	10/28	7/28	4/28	1/28	10/27	7/27	4/27	1/27	10/26	7/26	4/26	1/26	10/25	7/25	4/25	1/25	10/24	7/24	4/24	1/24	10/23	7/23	4/23	1/23	10/22	7/22	4/22	1/22	10/21	7/21	4/21	1/21	10/20	7/20	4/20	1/20	10/19	7/19	4/19	1/19	10/18	7/18	4/18	1/18	10/17	7/17	4/17	1/17	10/16	7/16	4/16	1/16	10/15	7/15	4/15	1/15	10/14	7/14	4/14	1/14	10/13	7/13	4/13	1/13	10/12	7/12	4/12	1/12	10/11	7/11	4/11	1/11	10/10	7/10	4/10	1/10	10/09	7/09	4/09	1/09	10/08	7/08	4/08	1/08	10/07	7/07	4/07	1/07	10/06	7/06	4/06	1/06	10/05	7/05	4/05	1/05	10/04	7/04	4/04	1/04	10/03	7/03	4/03	1/03	10/02	7/02	4/02	1/02	10/01	7/01	4/01	1/01	10/00	7/00	4/00	1/00	10/99	7/99	4/99	1/99	10/98	7/98	4/98	1/98	10/97	7/97	4/97	1/97	10/96	7/96	4/96	1/96	10/95	7/95	4/95	1/95	10/94	7/94	4/94	1/94	10/93	7/93	4/93	1/93	10/92	7/92	4/92	1/92	10/91	7/91	4/91	1/91	10/90	7/90	4/90	1/90	10/89	7/89	4/89	1/89	10/88	7/88	4/88	1/88	10/87	7/87	4/87	1/87	10/86	7/86	4/86	1/86	10/85	7/85	4/85	1/85	10/84	7/84	4/84	1/84	10/83	7/83	4/83	1/83	10/82	7/82	4/82	1/82	10/81	7/81	4/81	1/81	10/80	7/80	4/80	1/80	10/79	7/79	4/79	1/79	10/78	7/78	4/78	1/78	10/77	7/77	4/77	1/77	10/76	7/76	4/76	1/76	10/75	7/75	4/75	1/75	10/74	7/74	4/74	1/74	10/73	7/73	4/73	1/73	10/72	7/72	4/72	1/72	10/71	7/71	4/71	1/71	10/70	7/70	4/70	1/70	10/69	7/69	4/69	1/69	10/68	7/68	4/68	1/68	10/67	7/67	4/67	1/67	10/66	7/66	4/66	1/66	10/65	7/65	4/65	1/65	10/64	7/64	4/64	1/64	10/63	7/63	4/63	1/63	10/62	7/62	4/62	1/62	10/61	7/61	4/61	1/61	10/60	7/60	4/60	1/60	10/59	7/59	4/59	1/59	10/58	7/58	4/58	1/58	10/57	7/57	4/57	1/57	10/56	7/56	4/56	1/56	10/55	7/55	4/55	1/55	10/54	7/54	4/54	1/54	10/53	7/53	4/53	1/53	10/52	7/52	4/52	1/52	10/51	7/51	4/51	1/51	10/50	7/50	4/50	1/50	10/49	7/49	4/49	1/49	10/48	7/48	4/48	1/48	10/47	7/47	4/47	1/47	10/46	7/46	4/46	1/46	10/45	7/45	4/45	1/45	10/44	7/44	4/44	1/44	10/43	7/43	4/43	1/43	10/42	7/42	4/42	1/42	10/41	7/41	4/41	1/41	10/40	7/40	4/40	1/40	10/39	7/39	4/39	1/39	10/38	7/38	4/38	1/38	10/37	7/37	4/37	1/37	10/36	7/36	4/36	1/36	10/35	7/35	4/35	1/35	10/34	7/34	4/34	1/34	10/33	7/33	4/33	1/33	10/32	7/32	4/32	1/32	10/31	7/31	4/31	1/31	10/30	7/30	4/30	1/30	10/29	7/29	4/29	1/29	10/28	7/28	4/28	1/28	10/27	7/27	4/27	1/27	10/26	7/26	4/26	1/26	10/25	7/25	4/25	1/25	10/24	7/24	4/24	1/24	10/23	7/23	4/23	1/23	10/22	7/22	4/22	1/22	10/21	7/21	4/21	1/21	10/20	7/20	4/20	1/20	10/19	7/19	4/19	1/19	10/18	7/18	4/18	1/18	10/17	7/17	4/17	1/17	10/16	7/16	4/16	1/16	10/15	7/15	4/15	1/15	10/14	7/14	4/14	1/14	10/13	7/13	4/13	1/13	10/12	7/12	4/12	1/12	10/11	7/11	4/11	1/11	10/10	7/10	4/10	1/10	10/09	7/09	4/09	1/09	10/08	7/08	4/08	1/08	10/07	7/07	4/07	1/07	10/06	7/06	4/06	1/06	10/05	7/05	4/05	1/05	10/04	7/04	4/04	1/04	10/03	7/03	4/03	1/03	10/02	7/02	4/02	1/02	10/01	7/01	4/01	1/01	10/00	7/00	4/00	1/00	10/99	7/99	4/99	1/99	10/98	7/98	4/98	1/98	10/97	7/97	4/97	1/97	10/96	7/96	4/96	1/96	10/95	7/95	4/95	1/95	10/94	7/94	4/94	1/94	10/93	7/93	4/93	1/93	10/92	7/92	4/92	1/92	10/91	7/91	4/91	1/91	10/90	7/90	4/90	1/90	10/89	7/89	4/89	1/89	10/88	7/88	4/88	1/88	10/87	7/87	4/87	1/87	10/86	7/86	4/86	1/86	10/85	7/85	4/85	1/85	10/84	7/84	4/84	1/84	10/83	7/83	4/83	1/83	10/82	7/82	4/82	1/82	10/81	7/81	4/81	1/81	10/80	7/80	4/80	1/80	10/79	7/79	4/79	1/79	10/78	7/78	4/78	1/78	10/77	7/77	4/77	1/77	10/76	7/76	4/76	1/76	10/75	7/75	4/75	1/75	10/74	7/74	4/74	1/74	10/73	7/73	4/73	1/73	10/72	7/72	4/72	1/72	10/71	7/71	4/71	1/71	10/70	7/70	4/70	1/70	10/69	7/69	4/69	1/69	10/68	7/68	4/68	1/68	10/67	7/67	4/67	1/67	10/66	7/66	4/66	1/66	10/65	7/65	4/65	1/65	10/64	7/64	4/64	1/64	10/63	7/63	4/63	1/63	10/62	7/62	4/62	1/62	10/61	7/61	4/61	1/61	10/60	7/60	4/60	1/60	10/59	7/59	4/59	1/59	10/58	7/58	4/58	1/58	10/57	7/57	4/57	1/57	10/56	7/56	4/56	1/56	10/55	7/55	4/55	1/55	10/54	7/54	4/54	1/54	10/53	7/53	4/53	1/53	10/52	7/52	4/52	1/52	10/51	7/51	4/51	1/51	10/50	7/50	4/50	1/50	10/49	7/49
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[illegible]

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88	24	Japan	4	16	93	91	11.7	91	58	128	China	518	3.4
89	40	India	4	16	93	91	11.7	91	58	128	China	518	3.4
90	70	India	4	16	93	91	11.7	91	58	128	China	518	3.4
91	70	India	4	16	93	91	11.7	91	58	128	China	518	3.4
92	120	India	4	16	93	91	11.7	91	58	128	China	518	3.4
93	114	India	4	16	93	91	11.7	91	58	128	China	518	3.4
94	114	India	4	16	93	91	11.7	91	58	128	China	518	3.4
95	136	India	4	16	93	91	11.7	91	58	128	China	518	3.4
96	136	India	4	16	93	91	11.7	91	58	128	China	518	3.4
97	136	India	4	16	93	91	11.7	91	58	128	China	518	3.4
98	136	India	4	16	93	91	11.7	91	58	128	China	518	3.4
99	136	India	4	16	93	91	11.7	91	58	128	China	518	3.4
100	136	India	4	16	93	91	11.7	91	58	128	China	518	3.4
101	136	India	4	16	93	91	11.7	91	58	128	China	518	3.4
102	136	India	4	16	93	91	11.7	91	58	128	China	518	3.4
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108	136	India	4	16	93	91	11.7	91	58	128	China	518	3.4
109	136	India	4	16	93	91	11.7	91	58	128	China	518	3.4
110	136	India	4	16	93	91	11.7	91	58	128	China	518	3.4
111	136	India	4	16	93	91	11.7	91	58	128	China	518	3.4
112	136	India	4	16	93	91	11.7	91	58	128	China	518	3.4
113	136	India	4	16	93	91	11.7	91	58	128	China	518	3.4
114	136	India	4	16	93	91	11.7	91	58	128	China	518	3.4
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117	136	India	4	16	93	91	11.7	91	58	128	China	518	3.4
118	136	India	4	16	93	91	11.7	91	58	128	China	518	3.4
119	136	India	4	16	93	91	11.7	91	58	128	China	518	3.4
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121	136	India	4	16	93	91	11.7	91	58	128	China	518	3.4
122	136	India	4	16	93	91	11.7	91	58	128	China	518	3.4
123	136	India	4	16	93	91	11.7	91	58	128	China	518	3.4
124	136	India	4	16	93	91	11.7	91	58	128	China	518	3.4
125	136	India	4	16	93	91	11.7	91	58	128	China	518	3.4

1996			Price ¢	+/-	Std. G. %	Gas and oil	1998	
High	Low	Stock					High	Low
<b>SHORTS (under 25)</b>								
900*	210*	Trans 2/4 1996	210*	+ 1/2	0.92	5.98	12 1/2%	122 1/2%
920*	100*	East 10/4 1996	100*	-	0.62	0.98	20 1/2%	100*
930*	100*	East 7/4 1996	100*	-	0.62	0.98	10 1/2%	100*
940*	100*	East 10/4 1997	100*	-	1.28	0.65	10 1/2%	100*
950*	100*	East 10/4 1997	100*	-	1.28	0.65	11 1/2%	100*
960*	100*	East 10/4 1997	100*	-	1.28	0.65	12 1/2%	100*
970*	100*	East 10/4 1997	100*	-	1.28	0.65	13 1/2%	100*
980*	100*	East 10/4 1997	100*	-	1.28	0.65	14 1/2%	100*
990*	100*	East 10/4 1997	100*	-	1.28	0.65	15 1/2%	100*
100	100*	East 10/4 1997	100*	-	1.28	0.65	16 1/2%	100*
101	100*	East 10/4 1997	100*	-	1.28	0.65	17 1/2%	100*
102	100*	East 10/4 1997	100*	-	1.28	0.65	18 1/2%	100*
103	100*	East 10/4 1997	100*	-	1.28	0.65	19 1/2%	100*
104	100*	East 10/4 1997	100*	-	1.28	0.65	20 1/2%	100*
105	100*	East 10/4 1997	100*	-	1.28	0.65	21 1/2%	100*
106	100*	East 10/4 1997	100*	-	1.28	0.65	22 1/2%	100*
107	100*	East 10/4 1997	100*	-	1.28	0.65	23 1/2%	100*
108	100*	East 10/4 1997	100*	-	1.28	0.65	24 1/2%	100*
109	100*	East 10/4 1997	100*	-	1.28	0.65	25 1/2%	100*
110	100*	East 10/4 1997	100*	-	1.28	0.65	26 1/2%	100*
111	100*	East 10/4 1997	100*	-	1.28	0.65	27 1/2%	100*
112	100*	East 10/4 1997	100*	-	1.28	0.65	28 1/2%	100*
113	100*	East 10/4 1997	100*	-	1.28	0.65	29 1/2%	100*
114	100*	East 10/4 1997	100*	-	1.28	0.65	30 1/2%	100*
<b>LONGS (over 15)</b>								
115*	100*	East 10/4 1997	100*	-	1.28	0.65	31 1/2%	100*
116*	100*	East 10/4 1997	100*	-	1.28	0.65	32 1/2%	100*
117*	100*	East 10/4 1997	100*	-	1.28	0.65	33 1/2%	100*
118*	112*	East 10/4 1998	112*	-	0.62	7.75	11 1/2%	100*
119*	112*	East 10/4 1998	107*	-	5.63	7.40	17 1/2%	100*
120*	96	Trans 6/4 1998	96	-	6.26	7.11	10 1/2%	100*
121*	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	3.24	7.23	10 1/2%	100*
122*	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	3.24	7.23	11 1/2%	100*
123*	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	12 1/2%	100*
124*	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	13 1/2%	100*
125*	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	14 1/2%	100*
126*	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	15 1/2%	100*
127*	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	16 1/2%	100*
128*	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	17 1/2%	100*
129*	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	18 1/2%	100*
130*	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	19 1/2%	100*
131	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	20 1/2%	100*
132	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	21 1/2%	100*
133	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	22 1/2%	100*
134	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	23 1/2%	100*
135	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	24 1/2%	100*
136	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	25 1/2%	100*
137	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	26 1/2%	100*
138	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	27 1/2%	100*
139	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	28 1/2%	100*
140	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	29 1/2%	100*
141	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	30 1/2%	100*
142	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	31 1/2%	100*
143	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	32 1/2%	100*
144	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	33 1/2%	100*
145	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	34 1/2%	100*
146	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	35 1/2%	100*
147	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	36 1/2%	100*
148	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	37 1/2%	100*
149	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	38 1/2%	100*
150	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	39 1/2%	100*
151	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	40 1/2%	100*
152	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	41 1/2%	100*
153	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	42 1/2%	100*
154	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	43 1/2%	100*
155	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	44 1/2%	100*
156	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	45 1/2%	100*
157	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	46 1/2%	100*
158	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	47 1/2%	100*
159	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	48 1/2%	100*
160	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	49 1/2%	100*
161	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	50 1/2%	100*
162	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	51 1/2%	100*
163	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	52 1/2%	100*
164	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	53 1/2%	100*
165	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	54 1/2%	100*
166	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	55 1/2%	100*
167	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	56 1/2%	100*
168	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	57 1/2%	100*
169	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	58 1/2%	100*
170	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	59 1/2%	100*
171	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	60 1/2%	100*
172	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	61 1/2%	100*
173	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	62 1/2%	100*
174	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	63 1/2%	100*
175	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	64 1/2%	100*
176	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	65 1/2%	100*
177	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	66 1/2%	100*
178	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	67 1/2%	100*
179	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	68 1/2%	100*
180	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	69 1/2%	100*
181	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	70 1/2%	100*
182	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	71 1/2%	100*
183	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	72 1/2%	100*
184	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	73 1/2%	100*
185	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	74 1/2%	100*
186	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	75 1/2%	100*
187	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	76 1/2%	100*
188	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	77 1/2%	100*
189	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	78 1/2%	100*
190	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	79 1/2%	100*
191	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	80 1/2%	100*
192	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	81 1/2%	100*
193	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	82 1/2%	100*
194	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	83 1/2%	100*
195	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	84 1/2%	100*
196	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	85 1/2%	100*
197	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	86 1/2%	100*
198	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	87 1/2%	100*
199	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	88 1/2%	100*
200	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	89 1/2%	100*
201	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	90 1/2%	100*
202	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	91 1/2%	100*
203	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	92 1/2%	100*
204	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	93 1/2%	100*
205	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	94 1/2%	100*
206	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	95 1/2%	100*
207	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	96 1/2%	100*
208	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	97 1/2%	100*
209	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	98 1/2%	100*
210	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	99 1/2%	100*
211	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	100 1/2%	100*
212	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	101 1/2%	100*
213	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	102 1/2%	100*
214	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	103 1/2%	100*
215	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	104 1/2%	100*
216	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	105 1/2%	100*
217	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	106 1/2%	100*
218	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	107 1/2%	100*
219	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	108 1/2%	100*
220	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	109 1/2%	100*
221	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	110 1/2%	100*
222	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	111 1/2%	100*
223	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	112 1/2%	100*
224	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	113 1/2%	100*
225	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	114 1/2%	100*
226	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	115 1/2%	100*
227	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	116 1/2%	100*
228	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	117 1/2%	100*
229	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	118 1/2%	100*
230	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	119 1/2%	100*
231	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	120 1/2%	100*
232	100*	East 10/4 1998	100*	-	6.54	7.23	121 1/2%</	

Source: Firstcall

# Lloyd's reign begins with encouraging pointers

**By ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT**

This is where the job of the umpires is thankless and their

An opportunity to maximise the appeal of the one-day internationals this year was missed when, once again, the idea of a three-nation tournament, involving both India and Pakistan, in mid-season was rejected. Nevertheless, the object of such cricket — an instant fix, not a prolonged



**Michael Atherton, the England captain, and Lloyd, the coach, pass the time by autographing souvenir bats**

from this aborted game and can believe that they scored a useful psychological point. Their cricket was purposeful and, as David Lloyd, the new coach, stressed rightly, displayed considerable character. There were some encouraging performances from the new

Alec Stewart appears to be heading in the opposite direction and his grip on an

The original England plan was to play their best XI in the first two games and this will presumably apply today, giving a second opportunity to Alistair Brown at the head of the order. His batting on Thursday was unconvincing.

The Indians, meanwhile, must wonder when they are ever going to see the sun shine. Until they do, their cricket will be vulnerable, their bowling relying overmuch on Srinath and Kumble and their batting on the peerless Tendulkar. England, although deprived of victory here, will proceed with optimism.

## By Ivo TEBNANT

**ANDY MOLES** is not an individual blessed with abundant fortune. Less consistent cricketers have appeared for England and have not been afflicted with serious injuries, as he has been. In his first

Thanks to the Brumbrella which covers the square, play was under way at 4pm on a pitch tinged with green that, surprisingly, gave only scant

There would have quibbled with Whitaker's decision on Thursday to give Warwickshire first innings. The cloud cover was heavy, and Mills and Mulally, his opening bowlers, have had much to do with Leicestershire going to the head of the table. This, incidentally, in a season in which they may have to make do without Briers, their

Warwickshire resumed at 60 without loss, but in Mullally's first over yesterday. Knight went back instead of forward to a ball of full length which hit middle and off. In Parsons's second over, Ostler prodded at a ball outside off stump and edged to the wicketkeeper.

Next, Penney likewise stretched to reach one outside off stump from Millns, and succeeded only in scooping a catch to backward point. Further sloppy cricket followed. Reeve pushed Parsons to square leg, took a single, and made to come back for a second. He changed his mind as Moles was fully committed to the run and, indeed, as Maddy had picked up the ball. Moles stood no chance.

## SPORT IN BRIEF

The new Hotta is the first of four bikes intended for Obree, who starts the defence of his British 4,000 metres pursuit title tomorrow, in his build-up for the Olympic Games in Atlanta. It is thought that it could help him to break his world 4,000 metres pursuit record of 4min 20.894sec in the right conditions.

**GOLF:** Scott McCarron, of the United States, earned a share of the first-round lead at the Kemper Open in Washington, holing-out with a pitching wedge from 113 yards at the par-three 17th after his tee-shot had rolled back into the lake guarding the green. His round of 66, five under par, kept him level with Billy Andrade and Jay Williamson, his compatriots.

**SNOOKER:** Stephen Hendry was presented with the player of the year award during the annual World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association (WPBSA) dinner at the Dorchester Hotel, London, last night. Hendry equalled the modern era record of Ray Reardon and Steve Davis by winning the Embassy world championship for the sixth time in seven years last month.

**CYCLING:** Pascal Herve, of France, scored a double triumph yesterday as he won the sixth stage of the Giro d'Italia and claimed the pink jersey of overall leader. He vaulted from 46th place, snatching the leadership from Silvio Martinello, of Italy, by virtue of picking up decisive time bonuses in sprints during the stage.

**ROWING:** The Great Britain men's eight, already qualified for the Olympic Games, will not be racing at the Lucerne Regatta, the last test before Atlanta, next weekend. Three crew members have succumbed to the chest infection that kept Roger Brown out at Duisburg last week, and the training has been severely curtailed.

By MIKE ROSEWELL

IN 1947, Desmond Hill, then the rowing master at St Edward's School, Oxford started a regatta for school third eights on the backwaters of Godstow, above Oxford. Four schools — Radley, Shrewsbury, St Edward's and Bedford — competed. Radley beat St Edward's by 1½ lengths in the final. Radley's school magazine recorded: "Thanks to St Edward's for organising the regatta, which, it is hoped, will become an annual event in which other schools will also compete."

**The Radleian** could not have envisaged the progress to follow. Hill continued to run the event, by then the National Schools Regatta, until his death in 1984. Now held on the multi-lane course at Nottingham, the event draws bigger crowds than any other held at the National Water Sports Centre.

This year there are 51 events for a record total of 2,792 competitors from 119 different schools and clubs and 233 races will be held over a two-day, 22-hour, programme.

The original four schools are still there, three of them — St Edward's, Radley and Shrewsbury — in the blue riband championship eights for the Queen Mother's Cup. Eton, who won their first trophy at the regatta in 1950, are once again Queen Mother favourites, only Hampton and St Edward's having broken their run since 1980.

Many of those involved over the years have gone on to international honours. Olympians Matthew Pinsent (Eton) and Greg and Jonny Searle (Hampton) included.

## BY GEOFFREY WHEELER

**ALTHOUGH** Richard Blakey completed 10,000 runs in first-class cricket at Canterbury yesterday, the fact that his unbeaten 56 against Kent was his first half-century in the Hampshire side for two seasons emphasised how much his batting has declined since he took over the wicketkeeping duties for Yorkshire, who advanced from 261 for five to 320 for seven before the rain arrived.

Blakey, who could once be relied upon for well in excess of a thousand runs a season as a specialist batsman, averaged before the umpires took the players off after just an hour's play, never to return.

Play was possible in only three of the eight championship games yesterday, but Hancock, the young Gloucestershire batsman, made good use of the time available at the King's School ground, Gloucester, where play did not start until 5pm.

Gloucestershire, resuming at 223 for four against Surrey, made 80 runs from the 25 overs possible, Hancock scoring 50 of them as he advanced to 93 not out.

aged less than 13 last season. Yesterday he and Alex Morris took their sixth-wicket stand to 67 before Min Patel had Morris caught at silly point by David Fulton. At 205, Peter Hartley played on to give Nick Preston his fourth wicket in the home championship debut.

Alex Wharf then took a liking to Preston's bowling, taking 13 off the final over.

He quickly lost Mark Alleyne, who fell to Brendon Julian, but Jack Russell kept one end secure while Hancock played some sweetly-timed drives at the expense of the seam bowlers. When Richard Pearson, the off-spinner, was tried, Hancock hit him for six. His sixth-wicket partnership with Russell is so far worth 71, with the latter's share 18.

## FILE GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

**Today**

**CRICKET**

Second Testmatch Trophy  
one-day international  
10-45, 50 overs  
**HEADINGLEY:** England v India

Britannia Assurance championship  
11.0, first day of tour, 96 overs minimum  
**HORHAM:** Sussex v Middlesex  
11.0, third day of tour, 104 overs minimum  
**DEBRY:** Derbyshire v Essex  
**ABERGAVENNY:** Glamorgan v  
Worcestershire

**GLOUCESTER:** Gloucestershire v  
Surrey

**PORTSMOUTH:** Hampshire v Durham  
**CANTERBURY:** Kent v Yorkshire  
**TAUNTON:** Somerset v  
Northamptonshire

**EDGEBASTON:** Warwickshire v  
Leicestershire

**University match**  
11.0, first day of three  
**THE PARKS:** Oxford University v  
Nottinghamshire

**FOOTBALL**

Endsleigh Insurance League  
Third division play-off  
Final  
**Darlington v Plymouth**  
(at Wembley, 3.0)

**RUGBY LEAGUE**

Stones Super League  
Winning in London Broncos (7.30) ...  
**BNFL National Cup:** Final, Ebbw  
borough v Sleaford (at Salford, 8.30)

**NATIONAL YOUTH (PLAY-OFF):** First:  
West Hvt v Wootton (at Salford, 11.15);  
**NATIONAL JUNIOR PLAY-OFF:** Final:  
Ryton Tigers v Wigan St Patrick's (at  
Salford, 11.30)

**RUGBY UNION**

Challenge match  
**Bath v Wigan**  
(at Twickenham, 3.0)

**OTHER SPORT**

**ATHLETICS:** West Gates Cardiff  
**BORNES:** European welterweight cham-  
pionship; Parist, Charprier (F, holder) v  
Gary Jacobs (Glasgow) (Paris);  
**CYCLING:** Glasgow cycle championships  
Manchester velodrome, 11.0 and 6.0;  
Tour of the Kingdom (first stage: Dur-  
ham) to St Andrews, 6.34, 10.0, second  
stage: St Andrews to Falkland, 3.38, 3.0;  
**GOLF:** GLENANSIA, Glenelg Home Trails  
(Windsor Great Park);  
**GOLF:** Volvo PGA championship  
(Westwoud);  
**HOCKEY:** Women's international: Eng-  
land v Argentina (at Lisslehill, 11.0)  
**ROWING:** National schools regatta (at  
National Water Sports Centre, Nottingham);  
**SPEEDWAY (7.30):** Speedway Star Cup:  
Second round, first leg: Eastbourne v  
Swindon. Second round, second leg:  
Bradford v Scodden Monarchs; Coventry v  
Peterborough  
**SWIMMING:** British grand prix meeting  
(Sheffield);  
**TENNIS:** World women's doubles Cup  
(Cricketville Sports Centre, Edinburgh)

**Tomorrow**

**CRICKET**

Third Testmatch Trophy  
one-day international  
10.45, 50 overs  
**OLD TRAFFORD:** England v India

**AXA Equity & Law League**  
2 0 unless stated; 6 0 League  
**DEBRY:** Derbyshire v Essex  
**EBBW VALLE:** Glamorgan v  
Worcestershire (1.0)  
**GLOUCESTER:** Gloucestershire v  
Surrey

**PORTSMOUTH:** Hampshire v Durham  
**CANTERBURY:** Kent v Yorkshire  
**TAUNTON:** Somerset v  
Northamptonshire

**HORHAM:** Sussex v Middlesex  
**EDGEBASTON:** Warwickshire v  
Leicestershire

**MINOR COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP** (first  
day of two): Bedfordshire Salmons: Devon v  
Dorset; Leicestershire v Bedford-  
shire; Leicestershire v Northamptonshire  
v Hertfordshire; Bridgnorth Shropshire v  
Hertfordshire.

**FOOTBALL**

Kia-oft 3 0 unless stated

International matches  
**Hong Kong v Select XI** (England  
at the Hong Kong Stadium,  
8.45am)

**United States v Scotland**  
(at Willobrook, New Britain, 5.0)

Endsleigh Insurance League  
Second division play-off  
Final  
**Bradford v Notts County**  
(at Wembley)

**MICK MCCARTHY TESTIMONIAL**  
MATCH: Ireland v Celtic (at Lansdowne  
Road, Dublin)

**OTHER MATCH:** Leyton Orient v Wals. 3.0

## RUGBY LEAGUE

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

### St Albans Super League

Chesham Bees v Worthington (5.30) ...  
First division

Barley v Widnes (5.30).  
Featherstone v Huddersfield (6.0).  
Hull v Rochdale (3.15) ...  
Wakefield v Keighley (3.30) ...

### Second division

Carlisle v Hull KR  
Leigh v Doncaster  
Prescot v Swinton  
South Wales v Hunstet (6.0)

## OTHER SPORT

### AMERICAN FOOTBALL: World League

Scottish Clydesdale v Frankfurt (at  
Olympic Stadium, 8.0).

### CYCLING: National race championships

Manchesterist Velodrome 10.0 and 6.0.  
Tour of the Kingdom (Luton-Venlo-Leven,  
ROMA, 10.0)

### SOULSTRIKING: Windsor Horse Trials

Windsor Great Park

### GOLF: Volvo PGA championship

Wentworth.

### HOCKEY: Man's International: Great Britain v Germany (Milton Keynes, 1.15). LACROSSE: Females Three cham- pionship (Blacks Head)ROWING: National schools regatta (at national water sports centre, Nottingham)SPEEDWAY: Premier League: Scottish Monarchs v Exeter (at Glasgow, 6.30)Conference League: Midland League 3.0; Shiffield v Anne Uxley (3.0); St Albans v Peterborough (2.0); Swin- don v Lutetia (6.0) SWIMMING: British grand prix meeting Stratford. OSLER GREEN NEW COLLEGE II ST ALBANS FEATHERSTONE SOUTHVILLE II ST CATHERINE'S ST ALBANS WINDHAM UNIVERSITY ST EDMUND HALL ST ALBANS II ORES ST ALBANS CHRIST CHURCH HERTFORD LUTON KING'S ST ALBANS WORCESTER MAGDALEN LUNDON MERTON ST ALBANS LINCOLN EXETER SOUTHVILLE II BALJOJO OSLER GREEN II TRINITY NEW COLLEGE II QUEEN'S MANCHESTER CHRIST CHURCH ST ALBANS II ST ALBANS II PETERBORO II ST ALBANS II LUTON II UNIVERSITY ST JOHN'S II CHRIST CHURCH II OLES II RECENT'S PARK ST ALBANS II WINDHAM NEW COLLEGE II COLLEGE GREEN ST EDMUND HALL II ST ALBANS II MERTON II WILFORD II LUNDON II WESTMINSTER ST ALBANS II ST ALBANS II ST CATHERINE'S II ST ALBANS II HERTFORD II ST CATHERINE'S II LINCOLN II ST ALBANS II



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**Today**

**CRICKET**

Second Test: Sussex Trophy  
one-day International  
10.45, 50 overs  
HOLDSBURY: England v India

Britannia Assurance championship  
11.0, final day of four, 98 overs minimum  
HORSHAM: Sussex v Middlesex  
11.0, third day of four, 104 overs minimum  
DESERET: Derbyshire v Essex  
ABERGAVENNY: Glamorgan v  
Worcestershire

GLOUCESTER: Gloucestershire v  
Surrey

PORTSMOUTH: Hampshire v Durham  
CANTERBURY: Kent v Yorkshire

TAUNTON: Somerset v  
Northamptonshire

EDGBASTON: Warwickshire v  
Leicestershire

University match  
11.0, final day of three  
THE PARKS: Oxford University  
v Nottinghamshire

**FOOTBALL**

Endsleigh Insurance League  
Third division play-off  
Darlington v Plymouth  
(Wentley, 3.0)

**RUGBY LEAGUE**

Stations Super League  
Warrington v London Broncos (7.30) ...  
BNFL NATIONAL CUP: First Elder  
borough v Stirling (at Solihull, 3.30)

## FULL GUIDE TO THE

**NATIONAL YOUTH PLAY-OFF:** Final: West Ham v Wokingham at Slough, 1.10.

**WORLD CUP:** England v Pakistan: Ricky Ponting tops in Wigan St Patrick's (last Saturday, 11.30).

### RUGBY UNION

**Challenge match**  
Bath v Wigan  
(at Twickenham, 3.0) .....

### OTHER SPORT

**ATHLETICS:** World Games (Cardiff)

**BOKING:** European heavyweight championships, welterweight 71, bantam 69, fly 63, feather 70, lightweight 81, middle 91, super-middle 105, heavy 120 and 6.00.

**GARY JACOBS (Glasgow) (Paris).**

**CYCLING:** National track championships

**HOCKEY:** Ireland v Netherlands 11.0 and 6.00.

**TWO OF THE KINGDOMS (first stage: Durhamshire vs St Andrew's, 3.30; 10.0 second round: Scotland v Wales, 11.0).**

**EQUESTRIANISM:** Windsor Horse trials (Windsor Great Park).

**GOLF:** Volvo PGA championship (Luton).

**HOCKEY:** Women's international: England v Argentina (at Lillieshall, 11.0).

**ICE HOCKEY:** Nations' cup: Canada against the United States (at Nottingham).

**SPEEDWAY:** V.I.P.: Speedway Star Cup: Second round, first leg: Eastbourne vs Ipswich, 8.00.

**SWIMMING:** Commonwealth Championships: British v Scottish swimmers; Coventry v Peterborough.

**TABLE TENNIS:** British grand prix meeting (Sheffield).

**TENNIS:** World women's doubles Cup (Grainthorpe Sports Centre, Edinburgh)

## Tomorrow

### CRICKET

**Third Test:** Topiary  
England v International  
10.00.

**OLD TRAFFORD:** England v India

**WEEKEND FIXTURES**

**AXA Equity & Law League**  
20 unless stated, 40 overs

**DEBURY:** Derbyshire v Essex

**ESBAY VALE:** Glamorgan v  
Gloucestershire (10)

**GLoucester:** Gloucestershire v  
Surrey

**PORTSMOUTH:** Hampshire v Durham

**CANTERBURY:** Kent v Yorkshire

**TAUNTON:** Somerset v  
Northamptonshire

**HORSHAM:** Sussex v Middlesex

**EDGEBASTON:** Warwickshire v  
Leicestershire

**MINOR COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP** (first  
day of two) **Badshah Stadium:** Devon v  
Gloucestershire  
**St James:** Herefordshire v Bedford-  
shire  
**St John's:** Northamptonshire v  
Hertfordshire  
**Edgworth:** Bedfordshire v Shropshire v  
Herefordshire

**FOOTBALL**

**Keele** off 3.0 unless stated

**International matches**  
**Hong Kong Select XI v England**  
(at The Hong Kong Stadium,  
8.45am)

**United States v Scotland**  
(at Wembley, New Britain, 5.0)

**Endersleigh Insurance League**  
Second division play-off

**Bradford v Notts County**  
(at Wembley)

**MICK MCCARTHY TRANSNATIONAL**  
**CRICKET:** Ireland v Celtic (at Lansdowne  
Road, Dublin)

**OTHER MATCH:** Leyton Orient v Walsley 3.0

### RUGBY LEAGUE

Kick-off at 3.0 unless stated

**Senior Super League**

Clitheroe Bears v Workington (5.30) ....

Barrow v Wigan (5.30) .....

Fleetwood v Huddersfield (6.0) .....

Hull v Rochdale (3.15) .....

Wakefield v Keighley (3.30) .....

**Second Division**

Carlisle v Hull KR .....

Leigh v Doncaster .....

Preston v Swinton .....

South Wales v Hunslet (6.0) .....

### OTHER SPORT

**AMERICAN FOOTBALL:** World League: Glasgow v Glasgow Warriors v Frankfurt (at Glasgow, Edinburgh, 3.0)

**CYCLING:** National track championships, Manchester: Velodrome 10.0 and 6.0, Tour of the Kingdom (Leven-Tarplee-Leven, 3.30), 10.0

**EQUESTRIANISM:** Windsor Horse Trials: Windsor Great Park

**FOOTBALL:** Volvo PGA championship

**HOCKEY:** Men's international: Great Britain v Germany (Millon Keynes, 1.15)

**MOTOR RACING:** Formula Two championship (Bancs Hagh)

**SWIMMING:** British school sports meeting (at Glasgow, 10.0)

**SNOWBOARDING:** Premier League: Scottish Snowboarders v Beller (at Glasgow, 6.30)

**STANDARD LEAGUE:** Hibernian v Reading (3.30), Sheffield v Arsenal (Euxes, 3.0)

**STEEPLECHASE:** v Peterborough (2.0)

**SWIMMING:** v Loughborough (5.0)

**TENNIS:** British grand prix, missing (Sheffield)

JESUS H.  
 WASHINGTON II.  
 I  
 CLEVELAND  
 NEW COLLEGE  
 ST. MARK  
 PINEBROOK  
 SPOWVILLE II.  
 ST. CATHERINE'S II.  
 BRADDOCK  
 JESUS  
 WADSWORTH  
 UNIVERSITY  
 ST. EDWARD HALL  
 ST. ANNE'S  
 II  
 CORE  
 WOLFSON  
 CORBY CHURCH  
 HARTFORD  
 LEXINGTON  
 KENIL  
 ST. JOHN'S  
 WORCESTER  
 MASONIC  
 LAMARQUE  
 MERTON  
 ST. MARY'S  
 LINCOLN  
 EXETER  
 III  
 SPOWVILLE II.  
 BALLOU  
 OAK CREEK II.  
 THIRTY  
 NEW COLLEGE II.  
 CHESN'S  
 MANNING  
 ST. PETER'S  
 ST. HILARY'S II.  
 PENNSYLVANIA II.  
 IV  
 CORPUS CHRISTI  
 LAW  
 UNIVERSITY II.  
 ST. JOHN'S II.  
 CORBY CHURCH II.  
 KIBBLE II.  
 ROBERT'S PARK  
 ST. CATHERINE'S II.  
 WADSWORTH  
 NEW COLLEGE II.  
 CLEVELAND II.  
 ST. EDWARD HALL II.  
 V  
 EXETER II.  
 ST. MARK  
 WOLFSON II.  
 LINCOLN  
 WESTMINSTER  
 LAMARQUE  
 ST. ANTHONY  
 ST. CATHERINE'S II.  
 CORE II.  
 HARTFORD II.  
 ST. CATHERINE'S IV.  
 LINCOLN II.

[illegible]

## Wigan spring cross-code surprises

## West called out of retirement to tackle Bath

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THERE is a dreadful irony in the fact that, while English rugby union's leaders were wrestling yesterday for control of their game in central London, out in the suburbs Wigan's rugby league team was preparing to storm Twickenham once more in the second of their cross-code meetings with Bath.

The barbarians, traditionalists would have said less than a year ago, are at the gates and nobody is at home. The trouble is, rugby union does not know now who the barbarians are and whether there are not more of them within their own ranks or among the entrepreneurs slowly circling the game looking for signs of weakness.

This month rugby union has offered its rival code an unparalleled stage on which to display its wares, and rugby league, hardly surprisingly, has taken full advantage. Wigan beat Bath in the 13-a-side game at Maine Road, easing down to an 82-6 win, and turned up at Twickenham three days later to carry off the silverware from the Middlesex Sevens.

Today at Twickenham, before an expected crowd of 40,000, Bath will seek revenge in the Save & Prosper challenge match within the more structured confines of their own game, the code that they have dominated for more than a decade. Wigan, deprived of Shaun Edwards, their injured captain, have called up not only Joe Lydon from semi-retirement to play stand-off half but also Graeme West, their coach.

West, 42, from Taranaki, New Zealand, was brought up in rugby union and, indeed, Alf West, his great uncle, was a member of the 1924 "Invincibles" who toured Great Britain. However, his last season of rugby league was five years ago, since when his activities have been confined to Wigan reserves and Wigan Rugby Union Club's veterans, for whom he played against Old Aldwinians a fortnight ago.

He will partner Andy Farrell, the new England captain, in the second row. "If we hold our own, we have a chance,"

West said, and their back row, all of whom have played international rugby union, may give them some possession in the loose wherein their best prospects lie.

Yet far more significance will be attached to the encounter than either club would wish because, for some reason, there will be a perception that the winning team has the better game. That is like saying that, because you have a preference for bananas over

one single, worldwide rugby sport. "It sides in rugby union become full-time professionals and take up proper fitness training, they will improve out of sight over the next two years," he said, "but they have to improve their rules to make the game more continuous."

The psychological arguments began well in advance of the game today. Maurice Lindsay, the Rugby Football League's chief executive, suggested in the wake of Wigan's win in the Middlesex event that, if the game today was "played through the set pieces, through the rucks and mauls, then the spectators must be given their money back. It will be boring and crude."

Therein lies the problem for a Bath side missing three players with the Scotland touring party in New Zealand. There is not a set-piece game, yet it is an undeniable part of their code. To activate the scrum as an attacking weapon, however, could create physical danger for opponents who, for all that they have been advised by such rugby union experts as Nigel Horton, Sammy Southern and David Young, will not be accustomed to the pressure generated. Nobody will be more aware of that than Brian Campsall, the referee, who will insist upon Bath's front row keeping up the scrum.

"We have a responsibility there to make sure everything is OK," Brian Ashton, the Bath coach, said. "The same is true of the rucks. What we do technically must be correct so that nothing untoward happens, but we have to go out and play our game, the sort Bath have tried to play all season. We have no intention of playing ten-man rugby."

"If we are not good enough to play against Wigan and beat them the way we normally play, that's when rugby union should stand up and take a close look at itself."

□ Tony Lanaway has been appointed first-team coach of Moseley, the Courage Clubs Championship's second division side. Lanaway, the England Students coach, takes over from Derek Nutt, who has stepped down.

## TEAMS

BATH: J. Callaghan, A. Lumsden, A. Adeniyi, P. de Glanville, J. Stieglitz, M. Cant, I. Sanders, K. Vales, G. Davis, V. Ugochi, E. Pearson, M. Hoag, N. Redman, A. Robertson, O. Jones.

WIGAN: K. Radcliffe, J. Robinson, M. Paul, G. Connolly, M. O'Brien, J. Lydon, E. Murdoch, M. Cowie, M. Hall, T. O'Connor, V. Tuganala, G. West, A. Farrell, S. Tulp, S. Quinnell.

Referee: B. Campsall (Yorkshire)

Oranges, that they are the better fruit.

Both rugby codes have their own adherents through an accident of birth, upbringing or simple preference. League is far more comprehensible, played at greater pace with far more movement; yet union, the more ponderous code, has achieved far greater global appeal with its differing rhythms and moods and could yet confirm its primacy if more teams adopt the approach seen in the southern hemisphere's Super 12 tournament or, dare one say, Bath.

West admits that the two may come together to form



West: late inclusion



Hall, centre, discusses tactics for Twickenham with Cowie, left, and Kelvin Skerrett, his Wigan club-mates

## Hall gets to grips with new role

Christopher Irvine joins professionals preparing to play an unfamiliar game

The old joke about the pack coming up against a scrumming machine and the machine winning never applied more than in Wigan's case. The last cauliflower ear in rugby league sprouted around the turn of the century and, since then, competitive life in league scrums has drained to the point where, other than as a pause for players to catch their breath amid the perpetual motion of the modern game, they are just a means of restarting play. Wigan, in preparing for the rugby union challenge against Bath today, have had to learn long-forgotten skills essentially from scratch.

The league hooker and his union counterpart occupy entirely different worlds. In league, as the scrum feed has grown crooked, hooking the ball has become a lost art, one that Martin Hall has been attempting this week to rediscover. Hall is Wigan's main distributor at acting half back, a player who supports the half-break or bursts down the ruck area. Today he

tangles with the redoubtable hooking leg of Graham Dawe and will be throwing to the lineout — a league museum piece, rejected soon after the breakaway in 1895.

Not that the technicalities end there. "You get a headache taking it all in," Hall said. "In the scrums, there's the pushing and trying to go in the right direction and we didn't appreciate just how low you must get. Rucks and mauls are foreign territory. So are the penalties, without swallowing the rule book — and that doesn't mention raking and stamping."

Hall shares the safety concerns expressed for himself and Neil Cowie and Terry O'Connor in the front row. Bath have been instructed to keep the scrum up and legal. As was the case with Bath in the league game, Brian Campsall, the referee, has instructed Wigan, to pre-empt problems. He will warn of

offside situations before penalising Wigan and intervene only if they are being destructive and preventing Bath from recycling possession.

In league, the tackle is taken, the player gets up and plays the ball. Grappling for half a minute or more, ball-winning off the floor, recycling possession after the tackle and attacking rucks are alien to all but the back row of Scott Quinnell, Shem Tumpu and Va'auga Tuigamala, an interloper from the backs.

Containment of Bath's pack is not seen as viable. Two-man lineouts are Wigan's best option and Hall at least has height in Andrew Farrell, another union novice, and Graeme West, 42, the team's coach and an occasional player with Wigan veterans XV, to aim at.

Hall, who has no wish to be buried underneath a ruck, said: "Bath are a formidable

outfit. We're very conscious of what they can do to us in the forwards. Saying that, we're professional, our aim is to do well and our best chance lies with the backs, provided we get hands on the ball."

As the new laws will operate, under which the back row must bind on the scrum until the ball emerges, there will be no Bath forwards to crowd the Wigan midfield.

Joe Lydon, another member of the Wigan backroom staff brought out of retirement for the occasion, is at stand-off half, principally for his touch-finding, but he has attacking enough wizardry outside him to embarrass Bath.

With possession, no matter the code, Jason Robinson, Henry Paul, Martin Offiah and Gary Connolly can turn any daylight that Bath might allow Wigan into the dazzling exhibitionism that carried off the Middlesex sevens trophy a fortnight ago. Wigan's forwards have learnt as much as they can, as fast as they can, to ensure that they do.

## Controlling interest reaps large dividend for Funnell

By JENNY MACARTHUR

PIPPA FUNNELL outclassed her opponents at the Windsor International Horse Trials yesterday with an outstanding test on Marshland Rubio, giving her a seven-point lead at the end of the rain-soaked dressage phase.

Funnell, 27, who won the event last year on Designer Tramp, is also in third place on Rainbow Magic. Avril Johnston, on Independent Archie, the overnight leader, dropped to second place as the competition moved towards the speed and endurance phase today.

On a day of lacklustre tests, Funnell's performance on Marshland Rubio appeared in a different league. Worries that the young horse — a natural show-off — might "overdo it" proved groundless. Compliant throughout, he showed off his natural paces to earn high marks from all three judges.

Funnell, the 1992 national champion, will not be easy to dislodge today. Marshland Rubio was fourth last year and has been placed on each of his five outings this spring, including wins at Tidworth and Dynes Hall. Although neither of her horses has been tested on wet, slippery ground before, Funnell intends to take them both on the quick routes over the 26-fence course today.

Johnston, competing in only her second three-day event, is more cautious. "I'll just wait and see how he's going," she said. Independent Archie won the 1994 novice championships, but the course today — which is more demanding than last year — will be his biggest test to date.



Funnell: strong position

Should either of the leaders make a mistake, Andrew Nicholson, of New Zealand, lying fourth on Highly Rated, will hope to take advantage. Nicholson, who has three horses qualified for the Olympic Games, is one of the most stylish cross-country riders.

Matt Ryan, the Olympic champion from Australia, has some catching up to do today after a difficult test on Gay Faer that left him in 45th place. "She's got a tremendous jump but can't cope mentally with the dressage," Ryan said of the ten-year-old mare.

Florian Iseli, a Swiss general practitioner who lives near Lake Constance and keeps his horse in Ireland, is also likely to improve on his seventeenth place with Marid MacCarido today.

## Giles back to test Germany's defences

By SYDNEY FRISKIN

THE international hockey match at Milton Keynes between Great Britain and Germany tomorrow will serve as the final trial before the British squad for the Olympic Games in Atlanta is announced early next week.

The return of Calum Giles, Britain's short corner specialist, after a brief rest should remind Germany of the two goals he scored against them in Dublin last August, when England won 3-2 on the first day of the European Nations' Cup, which Germany eventually won.

With Hazlin back at left half after recovering from a hamstring injury, there should be more stability in the Britain defence. Lastest, the captain, is still on the injured list, giving Lee his chance to prove his worth in attack.

Germany have not sent their strongest side, with several leading players committed to the A division of the European club championship at Ulfenhorst, but they still have plenty of skill and experience. Against Holland last weekend, Germany drew 2-2 at Aachen and won 3-2 at Düsseldorf.

Teddington opened their account in the B division of the men's club championship in Prague yesterday with a 4-0 win over Espoo, of Finland. It was an encouraging start that Slough, the women's champions, must have been envious of before their European campaign got under in Rüsselsheim, Germany last night.

The odds have not been stacked in Slough's favour, with Karen Brown and Anna Bennett, the Great Britain internationals, unavailable for the first game, against Siauliai, of Lithuania, because of injury. Glasgow Western, whose experienced side recently completed an eighth Scottish league and cup double, have an excellent chance of winning a medal.

## Buoyant Broncos leave Paris trailing in their wake

By CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

A TALE of two cities presents a picture of contrasting fortunes between a generally prosperous London Broncos and a now down-at-heel Paris Saint-Germain side, approaching the ninth round of the rugby league Stones Super League.

The only danger for London is that they might forget where home is. In April they beat Paris and Worthington at Charlton, in south London. Away from The Valley since then, the Broncos have blossomed in winning at Leeds and Castleford; and they narrowly lost out to St Helens, the league leaders.

Tonight, London's travels take them to Warrington, another of a

clutch of teams with five wins from eight, placed below St Helens and Wigan. As to the raw deal handed them by the fixture list, the Broncos are happy to be piling up points against their most difficult matches.

Gavin Allen, the prop forward, who is hopeful of a return from a broken arm suffered last month, said: "We've set ourselves a goal of winning more away matches than we lose. If we can do that, we should be well on the way to a top-four spot."

"We're starting to come together really well. There's a lot of strength here. The forwards have been in sensational form, the backs have tightened up their defence and the opposition are not running through us as they were last season."

Greg Barwick, whose dropped goal won the game at Castleford last Sunday, is the find of the season for the Broncos. A full back, he was signed in the close season from Sydney Tigers and his versatility, at goalkeeping, in defence or priming the attack, has been influential in the three victories in their past four matches.

Lee Penny, whose dismissal for a high tackle on Alan Hunte was decisive in Warrington's one-point defeat by St Helens last week, is to appeal against a four-match ban. Chris Rudd switches from loose forward to full back for Warrington, who have an unbeaten home record against the London team.

With the Super League pro-

gramme stretched across the holiday weekend, Paris have until Monday to recover from the competing demands of the French domestic season — and a run of four successive Super League beatings — for the visit of Halifax Blue Sox, two places below them, in the bottom four.

Raiders by union clubs that have already tempted back Greg Kacala, who was apparently threatened with a life ban if he stayed with Paris, could also see the departure of Darren Adams, another forward, in spite of his selection this week in France's squad for the opening European championship visit of Wales to Carcassonne, on June 5.

Tas Baltiet, the Paris manager, said: "The French Rugby Union

Federation has obviously seen the success we've had, with over 45,000 spectators for four home matches, and they seem to be thinking that if they don't stop us now we might start to take over."

The meeting between St Helens and Castleford has been put back to Monday night, so the meeting between Oldham and Worthington, in which both sides have numerous injury doubts, is the one Super League fixture tomorrow.

In the climax to the season in the amateur game today, which is sticking with winter schedules, Skirlaugh and Ellenborough, the respective Yorkshire and Cumbria Cup-holders, meet in the BNFL National Cup final at Salford.

## FOR THE RECORD

<b>AUSTRALIAN RULES</b> AUSTRALIAN LEAGUE (AFL) North Melbourne 25.20 (170) by Fitzroy 9.11 (65).	<b>CRICKET</b> BAIN HOGG TROPHY: Belper: Lancashire 104 all out (M Smith 5-32), Derbyshire 71-1 (J. Smith 77, J. N. Smith 79). Lancashire won by 10 runs.	<b>ROYAL DORNOCH</b> : Scottish women's amateur championship: First round: A Rose (Shelton) 1-0; 2nd round: (Bathurst) 1-0; 3rd round: (Dundee University) 1-0; 4th round: (Royal Dornoch) 1-0; 5th round: (Dornoch) 1-0; 6th round: (Dornoch) 1-0; 7th round: (Dornoch) 1-0; 8th round: (Dornoch) 1-0; 9th round: (Dornoch) 1-0; 10th round: (Dornoch) 1-0; 11th round: (Dornoch) 1-0; 12th round: (Dornoch) 1-0; 13th round: (Dornoch) 1-0; 14th round: (Dornoch) 1-0; 15th round: (Dornoch) 1-0; 16th round: (Dornoch) 1-0; 17th round: (Dornoch) 1-0; 18th round: (Dornoch) 1-0; 19th round: (Dornoch) 1-0; 20th round: (Dornoch) 1-0; 21st round: (Dornoch) 1-0; 22nd round: (Dornoch) 1-0; 23rd round: (Dornoch) 1-0; 24th round: (Dornoch) 1-0; 25th round: (Dornoch) 1-0; 26th round: (Dornoch) 1-0; 27th round: (Dornoch) 1-0; 28th round: (Dornoch) 1-0; 29th round: (Dornoch) 1-0; 30th round: (Dornoch) 1-0; 31st round: (Dornoch) 1-0; 32nd round: (Dornoch) 1-0; 33rd round: (Dornoch) 1-0; 34th round: (Dornoch) 1-0; 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Saturday Portrait: Tessa Sanderson by David Powell, athletics correspondent

ILLUSTRATION BY STEVE MARTIN

## Joan Collins of javelin aims for dramatic final episode of dynasty

One curiosity of athletics is that women are classed as veterans at 35, men at 40. So, Linford Christie has four years to go while Tessa Sanderson is now in her sixth year "throwing for the granies", as she put it once. Come Atlanta in July, when the 40-year-old Sanderson is set to become the first British Olympian to appear in six Games, she will be the oldest slinger in town — but she can still dance to the beat.

When Sanderson held a javelin in competition for the first time in four years last Saturday, she threw it an Olympic qualifying distance, defeating her much younger rivals, to win her event at the International Games in Bedford. She is the Joan Collins of her sport, well preserved in appearance, seemingly indestructible, and a fiery opponent who, among other conquests, has been to the High Court and won. She has a fine sense of the theatrical, too.

Bedford was the scene for act one. Act two is the formality of finishing in the first three of the British Olympic trials in Birmingham next month to secure her Olympic berth. Act three is the Games themselves, which Sanderson believes may script her a medal.

Not unreasonably, after three throws just beyond 60 metres last weekend, she is confident of exceeding 65 metres in Atlanta. That is medal territory. Today, in the Welsh Games in Cardiff, she will be looking to improve on the 60.64 metres that she threw in Bedford.

Sanderson's greatest achievements were her 1984 triumph in Los Angeles, still the only Olympic victory by a British thrower, and her three Commonwealth Games gold medals. She already holds the record for Olympic appearances by a British woman, whether she appears in Atlanta or not. At her peak, in 1983, she threw 73.58 metres and established five Commonwealth records between 1976 and 1983.

It all began as a bet for a bag of chips. At 14, she tried throwing a javelin for the first time, striking a wager with a school friend over who could throw further.

Her first Olympics was in Montreal in 1976 when, as a 9st, fresh-faced 20-year-old, she did not look the part. "Sprinters that way," Karin Smith, an American competitor, said, pointing her elsewhere, when Sanderson began to walk into the arena with the other throwers.

This was the Olympics of Alberto Juantorena, of Lasse Viren, the year that Harold Wilson resigned as prime minister, the year that Bjorn Borg won his first Wimbledon title. The last time that an Olympics went ahead without Sanderson, Jim Ryun was still chasing an elusive 1,500 metres title.

Sanderson has always been one of the sport's characters, from the day that, as a newcomer to the Britain team, she took the stage in

**'Sanderson has always been one of the sport's characters'**

a Romanian dance hall to give her impression of one of The Supremes, to the comment that she made, as a veteran of 38, that "it is wonderful to have guys whistling at you — that is why you should make an effort to look good."

Her career in athletics had been notable not only for her successes but for her running battles with Andy Norman, Britain's promotions officer, and her intense rivalry with Fatima Whitbread, the 1987 world champion and a regular team colleague.

Once Sanderson pulled out of a meeting at Crystal Palace in protest at the level of her appearance fee, compared with that given to Whitbread, Norman's close friend. On Whitbread, she said two years ago: "We are not desperate enemies. If there was a war, we would be on the same side, I think."

Sanderson's biggest appearance fee came from the High Court in 1990. She was awarded £30,000 in damages over newspaper claims that she had stolen another woman's husband. Sanderson insisted that her affair with Derrick Evans, who would become known as GMTV's Mr Motivator, had not begun until after the break-up of his marriage.

By this time, Sanderson, who appeared in Los Angeles as a curly-haired, round-faced, non-sexy athlete, had realised the benefits of developing her femininity. In 1990 she started as a sports news reader on BSkyB, better seen than heard. Her name and make-up survived a two-year battle against her uncomfortable delivery before she was made redundant. She told of how being "glamorous and feminine" was important to her — to the point that she became pushy with it.

"I have always loved my bum — Levi has missed out not getting me to advertise its jeans," was one example. "I've got the looks, I've got the figure, there is nothing I could not endorse," was another.

She has also shown a remarkable durability for an event which Brian Roberts, her coach, considers to be, along with the triple jump, "the event where athletes put the most strain on their joints and are most prone to injury."

While spared the misfortune of Whitbread, who was forced to retire prematurely because of shoulder trouble, Sanderson has not escaped injury entirely. Her worst moment came in 1988 when, as defending Olympic champion, she gashed a tendon at a training camp in Japan and was on crutches only days before flying to Seoul. The wound burst during the qualifying round, she failed to reach the final, and she returned home with her leg in plaster.

In 1976 she was tenth; in 1980 she was rated as a possible champion, a probable medal winner, but seized up with nerves and was eliminated at the qualifying stage. The contrast of Los Angeles with Seoul was then followed by fourth place — and first veteran in Barcelona in 1992. That summer



ended with her appearance in the World Cup in Havana. It was to have been one last competition before retirement, not to be taken too seriously, she said. "I am only here for the kit," she said, but there was a hint of what was to come in 1996. Was that definitely it, she was asked? "I cannot rule temptation out," she replied — and here she is again, inspired by the possibility of raising £1 million

for the charity Children in Hospital.

Born in St Elizabeth, Jamaica, Sanderson was brought up by her grandparents in the Caribbean, her mother and father having emigrated to England. At the age of eight she followed them, settling in the Midlands, though she lives in Essex now. Her first international championship was the 1974 Commonwealth Games, when she

finished fifth at the age of 17. She won the next one, in 1978, then again in 1986 and 1990.

Arguably, she owed her Olympic victory to a stroke of good fortune. She broke the Olympic record with her first throw. In the second round, Tina Liljak, from Finland, the world record holder, came within two feet of Sanderson. However, Liljak, who had won the 1983 world championship with a

last-round throw, was unable to take any further part because of a stress fracture in her right foot.

Sanderson, who was appointed MBE in 1985, has appeared on *This Is Your Life* and *Surprise Surprise*. Most Christmases you can find her in pantomime. Last season it was as Fairy Godmother in *Cinderella* at Lewisham, before she put down her magic wand and picked up her Olympic torch.

## Blundell's driving ambition stalled

FOR A few seconds, the husband looked up to the sky in impatience. Beside him, his wife argued at the office window about the missing tickets. Behind him, a metal billboard fell over in the wind and rain. "Who are you again?" a woman behind the glass asked. "Just a California family who gave up the Indy 500 to be here," he said.

Suddenly, the reality is sinking in and some of the martyrs are beginning to rue the sacrifices that they have made. They have forsaken the Indianapolis 500 for its new rival, the US 500, which will take place tomorrow here at the Michigan International Speedway. They have turned their backs on an institution.

They will have the leading drivers and the presence of celebrity owners such as Paul Newman, Joe Montana and David Letterman. They will console themselves with the fact that the field at Indianapolis consists almost entirely of raw novices and rusty veterans. If their heads say Michigan, though, their hearts are still saying Indy. "The bottom line is that the players are here and the theatre is somewhere else," Mario Andretti, a legend in United States motor sport, said yesterday. "The Indy 500 without IndyCar drivers is like *La Scala* in Milan without Pavarotti or Domingo."

Mark Blundell, the sole Briton in the US 500, knew about the political problems when he agreed to race for the PacWest team at the beginning of this year, but, like most observers, he assumed that the warring factions — the Indianapolis Motor Speedway and the IndyCar team owners — would

bury their differences for the sake of preserving the most famous motor race in the world.

"It is disappointing for me," Blundell said as he prepared for the first of two practice sessions here. "I have won the Le Mans 24-hour race and I have driven in the Monaco Grand Prix. I was looking forward to racing in the Indianapolis 500 just to round things off in my portfolio, but it is not to be this year at least. The way Indianapolis has handled it has made it impossible."

"The spectators who go there rather than here, though, will not be seeing the cream of the crop. Ultimately, I am happy to be here at Michigan because I am going to be sitting with the best IndyCar drivers around me. When you

are travelling at more than 230mph, that gives you confidence."

Blundell's move from Formula One to IndyCars, three seasons after Nigel Mansell won the series at his first attempt, has not yet worked out as he had hoped. He was lucky to escape with his life when he crashed in an oval race in Rio de Janeiro on March 17, hitting a concrete wall at 197mph after a brake failure. He has missed the past three races because of his injuries.

The US 500 is a daunting place for a comeback. Its banked sides are so steep that, when you drive a road car around it at 30mph, it seems as though it is going to tip over. It was here that Blundell got back into his IndyCar for the first time after his accident.



Blundell emerges from the wreckage of his crash in Rio de Janeiro

"I was apprehensive, to say the least," he said. "The first few laps completely threw me. I was back in at the deep end on a circuit where the average speed is about 225mph and I was looking at the walls as I was going round and thinking: 'Do I really need this?' I came back into the pits, but then I began thinking about ways I could gain time here and there and it got better. I did 79 laps that day and I came away a racing driver again."

"I have never had an accident that has made me think twice about getting back in the car before. When Scott Brayton was killed in practice at Indianapolis ten days ago, it brought it home to me how lucky I had been."

Blundell will start the US 500 from seventeenth on the grid, with Jimmy Vasser, the championship leader, on pole. Vasser is the favourite for the race here, but nobody really stands out from the dross at Indianapolis.

Lyn St James, the woman who cost Mansell victory at the Speedway in 1993 when her crash brought out the yellow flags and bunched up the field, will be there, and Michele Alboreto, the former Ferrari driver who is fourth in the standings of the Indy Racing League, the breakaway organisation that is competing with the IndyCar series.

It was Brayton, though, who had claimed pole position at Indianapolis a few days before he was killed. His death has robbed the race of one of the most experienced drivers in the field. It briefly brought the two sides in IndyCar racing together again in shared grief; tomorrow the rift will be wider than ever.

## Sofa so good for athlete displaying real potential

Her skirt has ridden to a point fractionally below her waist "revealing", in the immortal words of Tom Lehrer "for all of the others to see/Just what it was that endeared you to me". Heedless, she smiles.



**SIMON BARNES**  
On Saturday

ing the wrong beer last year. He will be sacked if there is a third offence.

### Head start

Best of luck to Hur Nam-jin. As South Korea fight for the right to hold the 2002 football World Cup, Hur shows his solidarity with the nation



Chen, a Russian athlete and a genuine contender in the triple jump at the Olympics, is keen on things like make-up and wardrobe, and she has been posing for the Russian *Playboy*. She hopes that money earned from the spread will help her to victory. She also has ambitions of appearing in the American *Playboy*, but she refuses to take part in "too revealing eroticism" or "bedroom scenes". A thoroughly nice-minded siren, in short.

### Divine moment

On to religion. Roberto Baggio — *il codino divino* or the divine ponytail — may have been left out of the Italian squad for the European football championship, but he has at least the consolation of religion. He has opened a Buddhist cultural centre at Thiene, near Vicenza, his home province. The place is also very handy for his sports shop.

### Fine time

Sponsorship news. Ian Russell, a rugby league player with the North Queensland Cowboys, has been fined Aus\$10,000 (about £5,000) for drinking the wrong brand of beer. He was seen drinking a can of Victoria Bitter on a plane on the way home from a match. His team is sponsored by Castlemaine, and the players must, by contract, drink only XXXX when travelling as a team. It was Russell's second offence: he was given a suspended fine of Aus\$5,000 for drinking

game — as long as Marge owns the team". Marge, as readers of this column know, is just a sweet old lady with a soft spot for Adolf Hitler.

### Take Brat

Congratulations to the man who has won the most coveted prize that the United States has to offer — the father of the year award. This year the National Father's Day Committee gave the award to that well-known role model and divorcé — John McEnroe. "It's like winning the Wimbledon title," he said. Can he be serious?

### Brave shot

At last some golfers to admire. A Red Badge of Courage goes to every golfer who plays the 16th hole at Shelby Park course in Nashville, Tennessee. I tell you, that hole is a tiger, and many golfers have taken to missing it out altogether — in the past months, there have been two robberies and one attempted robbery there. Robbers hide in the weeds and leap out on unsuspecting golfers. Hands up! Your pink polyester trousers or your life!

### Base thoughts

The state totters. The England Under-15 cricket squad, preparing for the Lombard World Challenge this summer, has taken on a baseball coach, Julien Fountain, formerly a player with the British baseball squad, has been teaching the boys how to throw properly.

### Shane again

Let joy be unconfined! Yes, I bring you the greatest possible news. The operation on Shane Warne's spinning finger was a complete success. He now undergoes a course of intensive physiotherapy. Soon, it is hoped, the finger will recover full fitness.

## England warned of exclusion

By RICHARD EATON

THE International Badminton Federation (IBF) has warned that England risks exclusion from the next Thomas and Uber Cups, the world team competitions, because it fielded weakened squads in the event that reaches its conclusion tomorrow in Hong Kong.

The absences of Julie Bradbury, Joanne Wright and Simon Archer — who preferred to continue their preparations for the Olympic Games in Atlanta in July — have caused the IBF to issue an ominously worded statement.

"The IBF views the English team strength as a serious issue," it said. "The regulations state that the committee of management has the power to reject the entry of any member association whose entry is considered against the

interest of the competition or the game."

The timing of the statement is a surprise. The IBF is still waiting for all the evidence before its disciplinary committee can reach a verdict. Yet it has made known its doubts about the role of the Badminton Association of England (BAE), asking publicly why it did not advise the IBF before the preliminary rounds that there was a possibility that England would send an under-strength team.

John Havers, the chairman of the BAE, said: "We are desperately disappointed to be put in the dock by the IBF, who have not, perhaps, fully understood the complicated nature of the British Badminton Olympic Committee set-up and I would certainly fight any move to take us out of the

Thomas and Uber Cups. It would be better to reach an amicable settlement."

"Without biting anyone, we are showing our fangs," David Shaw, the IBF executive director, said. "We are not prejudging the issue. The disciplinary committee is fully aware of the arcane British system and its complications." Meanwhile, in the competition, Poul-Erik Hoyer, the All-England champion, helped to create a sensation by beating Dong Jiong, the world No 1, and leading Denmark to a 3-2 victory over China which earned them a place in the Thomas Cup final against Indonesia, who comfortably saw off South Korea.

Hoyer was 13-1 down in the second game and match point down at 17-14 before winning 6-15, 18-17, 15-11.

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## Beardsley's lessons reap reward

## Barmby ready to graduate from finishing school

FROM ANDREW LONGMORE IN HONG KONG

ENGLAND have one more obstacle to jump before the start of the European championship and, with all due respect to the Golden Select XI, their opponents tomorrow night, the Hong Kong leg of their Far East tour should be more of a bunny hop than a giant leap.

This is payday for the Football Association, a chance to fly the flag — St George's, that is, not the green one of the sponsors — in the old territory before the handover to China next year and to bang a drum for football in Hong Kong. Whatever Terry Venables, the England coach, may say, nothing too serious can be learnt from an exhibition match against such familiar stalwarts as Mike Duxbury, Carlton Fairweather and the specially-imported Dave Watson.

Barring disruption by injury, the 22 places in the final squad must be already fixed in the mind of Venables, with some have said, its special corner reserved for Tottenham Hotspur connections. The immediate rehabilitation of Anderton, the perseverance with Sheringham and the final chance for the recently-departed Barmby — there is a certain consistency to the thread.

Few, though, would begrudge the impish Barmby his place, especially after his two goals against China. Quick, tough, positionally intelligent, totally committed, he has, with some justification, been labelled the new Beardsley. The pair room together on England duty. Beardsley talks, Barmby listens — and the success of the tutorials could be proved in the cruellest way next week if Barmby, at 22 the younger by 13 years, ousts his mentor from the championship squad.

Barmby tried to play down the possibility. "There are five or six forwards," he said. "I don't see it as a straight fight between me and Peter, but, if it was and I got it, I know he would be the first to shake my hand."

The similarity of style is not lost on Bryan Robson, Barmby's manager at Middlesbrough and Venables's assistant with England. "A lot of things Peter does, Nick puts into his game," Robson said. "He has a lot of respect for the guy. If he keeps it up, his career could go in a very similar fashion."

A parting of the ways might be for the best. For all his little-boy looks and schoolboy complexion, Barmby needs to establish his own identity for club and country. A bright start for both, culminating in glowing reviews for his international debut against Colombia last autumn and universal surprise at Middlesbrough's drive into the top six of the FA Carling Premiership, turned only to disappointment and decline.

Barmby had no room to exploit Norway's compressed midfield, was out of sorts in the next international, too, and was dropped. So were Middlesbrough, despite the potentially explosive pairing with Juninho. An ankle injury, which forced Barmby out for three weeks, compounded, or perhaps precipitated, the fledgling's loss of confidence. By the time that it had started to return, the season was almost over and Teddy Sheringham, his striking partner for one sprightly season at White Hart Lane before Barmby's £5.25 million move back to his birthplace, had usurped his linking role in the England forward formation.

"He has taken a fair bit of criticism since Christmas, which was unfair," Robson said. "At times, Nick was trying too hard, trying to be everywhere on the field at once. When he's come back to the England set-up, he's been more relaxed and that showed against China."

Most impressive of all is Barmby's unflappable temperament. He rarely moans to the referee, never reacts to fouls. It is, he said, just his way — "I've always tried just to get on with my football, whatever the highs and lows."

Potentially, he is a better finisher than Beardsley. The delicate chip over the goalkeeper for his second goal in Peking was worthy of Linaker himself. If he shows the same skill on the grander stage, every one of the missionary miles that England have clocked up over the past few days will have been worth the effort.



Beardsley, left, and Barmby: master and apprentice

## Pilgrim Pete given all-clear to watch Plymouth's progress

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

PLYMOUTH Argyle play at Wembley for the first time in their 110-year history this afternoon, when they take on Darlington in the Endersleigh Insurance League third division play-off final. The Devon city has emptied, with more than 35,000 supporters making the long trek up the M5 and M4. Even Pilgrim Pete, Argyle's wacky mascot, is due to appear.

Provocative Pete has been banned from such notable third division venues as Layer Road, Craven Cottage and Edgar Street this season, for his over-enthusiastic behaviour, but he has been given the all-clear — a blue security wristband — by Wembley officials. At the so-called Venue of Legends, he can play the fool as much as he likes.

Neil Warnock, the Plymouth manager, is more concerned with the serious

business of beating Darlington and securing a place in the second division. "Wembley is the best place in the world to play football," he said. "In fact, it's the only place."

It is Warnock's fourth visit for a play-off final and he holds a 100 per cent record, with Notts County, twice, and Huddersfield Town. Yet he would prefer that Argyle's campaign had already been concluded.

"People think I wanted to reach Wembley all along, but nothing could be further from the truth," he said. "Nobody wants a season to last ten months. I wanted us to go straight up."

Seven members of Plymouth's starting line-up have played at Wembley before. Steve Cherry, the goalkeeper, will make his fifth appearance, but for Gary Clayton, the midfielder, it will be

fourth time unlucky. Clayton, 33, has twice missed out because of injury, when playing for Cambridge United and Huddersfield, and once, again with Huddersfield, because he was cup-tied. A persistent groin strain keeps him out today.

Though Darlington are rated as underdogs, they have defeated Argyle twice in the league, lost only one away match this season and have been beaten only once in their past 22 games. "We're proud of our record," Jim Platt, the Darlington manager, said. "We've been proving the bookmakers wrong all season and we'll just have to do it again."

The club's share of the receipts, probably around £200,000, could prove vital. Bernard Lower, the chairman, said: "If we hadn't had such a successful end to the season, we might not have been able to survive."

Notts County and Bradford City dispute the second division honours tomorrow. Colin Murphy, County's general manager, has proved himself as astute financially as he is tactically. Since arriving at Meadow Lane last summer, he has saved the club almost £250,000 by imposing a rigid wage structure.

"In this game, you need the ability to buy and sell," Murphy said. "That's probably one of the reasons I got the job. It needed drastic surgery here, but it's gone well. I just hope we acquit ourselves well at Wembley."

Hooligan raid, page 1

## Germans win friends

WHETHER Germany will win the European football championship remains to be seen, but they made a determined effort to win hearts and minds in their base in the North West yesterday (Peter Ball writes). Bert Trautmann and Jürgen Klinsmann, England's two best-loved Germans, formed a reconnaissance party to meet the mayor of Manchester and hold their first press conference of the tournament.

Manchester on June 6, they will hold a series of open practices which they hope local schools will attend. Yesterday Trautmann and Klinsmann said all the right things.

They were enthusiastic about England, fulsome about Old Trafford, where they play their three matches, and bullish about British beef. "I had my best scoring season of all eating British beef," Klinsmann said.

When they arrive in



Seles: mental barrier

THERE are two days to go before the start of the French Open tennis championships and Roland Garros is a hive of activity, but the busiest people in Paris are the physiotherapists, trying frantically to patch up the ailing limbs of the world's leading players. The list of walking wounded grows ever longer and, after the withdrawal of Boris Becker (pulled thigh muscle), Gabriela Sabatini (pulled stomach muscle) and Chanda Rubin (wrist injury), there are now doubts over Thomas Muster and Monica Seles.

Seles withdrew from the Madrid Open yesterday before her semi-final match, complaining of a recurrence of the shoulder injury that has been plaguing her since the Australian

Open. It was her first tournament in three months and was her first appearance in Europe since she was stabbed in Hamburg three years ago. She had wanted to overcome the mental barrier of playing in Europe again before going to the pressure-cooker atmosphere of the French Open, where she will play Caroline Dhenin, of France, in the first round.

It may be three years since Günter Parche almost destroyed Seles's career, but the scars are still as deep as ever. Parche attacked Seles in order that Steffi Graf could be No 1 in the world again, and that fact still places a huge divide between the players. "We don't really have any contact," Graf said. "Perhaps we are both a little afraid."

Thomas Muster, however, has nothing but happy memories of the

club courts of Europe. He is the No 2 seed and defending champion in Paris, but his chances of reclaiming the title were hampered by an ankle injury sustained on Thursday during a warm-up session during the Raiffeisen grand prix event in Austria.

Muster is undergoing regular treatment for the sprain, but may ask for a Tuesday start to his singles campaign. Things are not looking too promising for Pete Sampras, the No 1 seed, either. He had to pull out of his World Team Cup match in Düsseldorf suffering from back spasms, his first tournament since the death of Tim Lickson, his coach, but, regardless of his mental or physical state, he will have his work cut out.

Last year he fell at the first hurdle to Gilbert Schaller, and this year he will have to engage top gear from the first day to get much further. His opening match pits him against Magnus Gustafsson, with the possibility of meeting Sergi Bruguera, the winner in Paris in 1993 and 1994, in the second round.

After that, Mats Wilander or Todd Martin could provide his next challenge and, should he survive that section of the draw, Jim Courier, another player to have won the title twice, is seeded to meet him in the quarter-finals.

Andre Agassi, the No 3 seed, has an easier start against a qualifier as he strives to face Sampras in the semi-finals, while Michael Chang, a finalist last year and seeded No 4, opens up against David Prinosil.

The British contingent may not be around long. Tim Henman faces Kris Gossens, of Belgium, in the first round before meeting Andrei Chesnokov or Guy Forget. Greg Rusedski does not have it much easier, with a qualifier in the first round and a probable meeting with Michael Stich after that.



Ames takes a look at the line of a putt on his way to a 73 in the Volvo PGA Championship at Wentworth

## Ames offers calm in eye of storm

Mel Webb reports from Wentworth on a golfer who has learnt to curb his volatile nature to the benefit of his game

IT rained, and it blew; the weather needed to improve to be dreadful. It was no time even for being something waterproof, like a duck, let alone a professional golfer from infinitely summer climes trying to put together a half-decent score. So did Stephen Ames enjoy himself at Wentworth yesterday? Amazingly, he did; money may not buy happiness, but it definitely delays the onset of misery.

It was only five days ago that Ames, 32, who hails from Trinidad and Tobago, defied the worst that the elements could hurl at him to win the Benson and Hedges International title at The Oxfordshire and tucked a cheque for £117,000 into his hip pocket. In conditions about as far as they could be from the climate of his native land, he had taken on a world-class field and beaten it.

Much was made in the following morning's newspapers about the collapse of such luminaries as Montgomerie, Faldo, Langer, Woosnam and Ballesteros. Ames's closing 72, the best score of the day in the worst of the weather, was, if not forgotten, certainly not given the praise it deserved.

He was back on duty yesterday, playing alongside Nick Faldo and Ian Woosnam. He performed at least as well as Woosnam and achieved the same score, 73. Admittedly, he was put in the shade somewhat by Faldo's 67 — but then, few were not.

It was a day for sitting in front of the fire with a good book, a cup of something hot and a plate of cinnamon muffins. If it had to be spent on a golf course, then it was a day for traipsing miserably, muttering foul oaths under the breath and experiencing the fascinating sensation of cold water trickling relentlessly down one's neck.

It was enough to test the fortitude of a saint. Ames, though a halo was not in evidence, said he enjoyed it. "I hit only one bad shot all day," he said. "I'm very happy with the way I'm striking the ball."

'His mind-set has changed from turbulent to peaceful'

Work with a sports psychologist has changed his mind-set from turbulent to peaceful. "My wife knows me better than anybody else, and even she says that I look very calm these days," he said. "It's made a real difference to me."

A real difference has also been made to him by his regular retreat into a basement just off Knightsbridge in the last few months. There he

put himself in the hands of two men who know as much about the mechanics of a golf swing as a virtuoso violinist knows about his Stradivarius. Steve Gould and David Wilkinson are disciples of the late Leslie King, the first man in this country to construct a complete template for the golf swing more than 50 years ago. They have been working with Ames for nine months, and are full of enthusiasm for their pupil's progress.

They have tightened and shortened his swing, which have given him more power and done a lot to eliminate a punishing duck-hook. It reared its head only once yesterday, and it led to one of only two bogeys on his card. "He is a model pupil," Gould said. "He was positive from the moment we started, and he takes everything we suggest on board."

Back at Wentworth, meanwhile, Ames was to be seen heading for the putting green. Two hours later he was still out there in the wind and the rain, putting and putting again. To do that you have to be either dedicated or loopy; and there is nothing even remotely crazy about Stephen Ames.

## Educate gives lesson in short game

BY JOHN HENNESSY

THERE was one, and that one guaranteed in advance. That might be the disappointing way that the Great Britain and Ireland Curtis Cup golf selectors will have viewed the third round of the English women's championship at Silloth-on-Solway yesterday.

The four English members of the team had survived to the last eight, but, by lunchtime, only Lisa Educate (née Walton) was still involved, having dispatched Karen Stupples, another member of the team, at the 19th. In the top half of the draw, Julie Hall, the holder, and Elaine Ratchford, the winner of the strokeplay stage of the competition earlier in the week, were beaten by Joanne Hockley and Sarah Gallagher, respectively.

At least Educate is still there, having given Sarah Sanderson a lesson in the afternoon semi-final. She now

meets Hockley, whose greater experience and maturity told against Gallagher.

Educate, married to an American of Italian ancestry (hence her unusual surname) was always likely to be too strong for Sanderson. Her attendance at an American University has given her a special air of confidence and composure and, if that were not enough, the words "San Jose State" writ large on her bag, carried an intimidating ring.

The story of her semi-final is soon told. Having lost the 2nd, she won three holes in a row from the 3rd, four in a row from the 7th, together with the 12th and 13th, after conceding the 11th with a third putt. Generally the two were virtually ball for ball through the green, but Educate's short game know-how was much superior.

Hockley against Gallagher was more closely fought, as, of

course, it had to be, but Gallagher could never eat further into Hockley's lead after a fine birdie at the 13th had brought her back to two down.

A series of halves from the 14th, with first one player then the other rescuing herself with admirable short game, left Gallagher two down with two to play. A kinder providence might have given her the 17th, but her putt for a win horse-shoed out, for the third time in the round.

Hall, who leaves competitive golf this year to take up a

post at St Andrews with the Ladies Golf Union, offered no excuse for her failure in the morning against Hockley, a fellow member of Felixstowe Ferry. "I just couldn't get it together," she said. Thus she surrendered the English title that she had won the two previous years and is left, poor lass, with only the British, Australian and Spanish titles.

□ Amy Benz, of the United States, seeking the first win of her 13-year career, scored a 66, six under par, to take a one-shot lead after the opening round of the Corning Classic women's tournament in New York. Alison Nicholas, the defending champion, from England, collected a 70. Nicholas is trying to become the first repeat winner in the tournament's 18-year history. Nicholas captured her first victory in the United States last year at the Corning Classic, when she finished on 275, 13 under par.



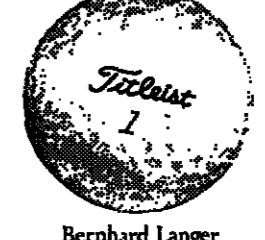
Seve Ballesteros



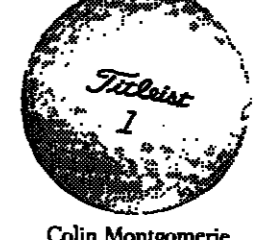
Gordon Brand Jr



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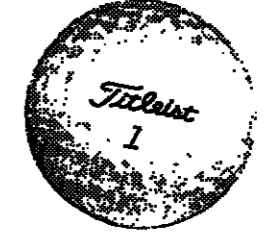
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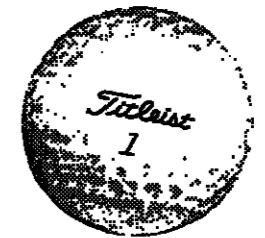
Colin Montgomerie



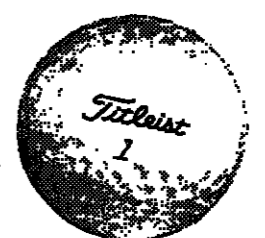
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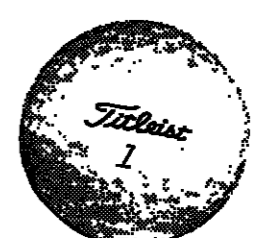
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To name but a few.

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## SPORT

SATURDAY MAY 25 1996

Masters champion's illuminating round brightens his home supporters

## Faldo steals Wentworth thunder

By JOHN HOPKINS  
GOLF CORRESPONDENT

ONE thunderous stroke helped Nick Faldo to seize the lead in the first round of the Volvo PGA Championship at Wentworth yesterday, a shot that proved to be a vivid shaft of brightness on a wet and dismal day. It served as a warning to his challengers that he is never so dangerous as when the pressure is at its greatest and reminded his home supporters of some of the qualities that enabled him to become Masters champion last month.

The effect of this stroke was heightened by the fact that it enabled Faldo to eagle the 18th hole on the West course for a 67, five under par, while his rivals failed to mount their anticipated challenge. Bernhard Langer, the defending champion, had a 73, as did Colin Montgomerie, on a day when everything that went right was wrong. Of Faldo's

Ames aims high — 43  
Educate's lesson — 43

team-mates in the Ryder Cup, only Costantino Rocca had a round to write home about, a 69.

Severiano Ballesteros is playing so poorly that he is not a contender for a title such as this but even as he shows the first faltering signs of a return to form he has the capacity to demand attention. On the 12th, he hit a brick as he played his second shot, damaging the two iron he was using and sending his ball spiralling up into some trees where it lodged, causing him to identify it with binoculars before dropping another.

Fact turned to farce at this point. As Ballesteros was about to play his replacement ball, his original one dropped out of the tree, nearly hitting him on the way. His seven was one of the more bizarrely-complicated events of his career. He took another on the 17th, this time in more conventional fashion, hitting his second shot out of bounds. In the circumstances, a home-made score of 40, three over par, and a round of 77 was a commendable effort when four shots had been squandered on two holes.

No one summarises their play so well as Montgomerie. He talks quickly, pithily and



Out on his own, Faldo is the inevitable centre of attention on a day when even Fanny Sunesson, his caddie, top left, struggled to keep up with him. Photograph: Ian Stewart

sometimes with brutal accuracy. His own damning verdict on his play was as follows: "I didn't putt well. I didn't drive well. I didn't hit my irons well and I didn't hit my putts well. Everything went out to the right."

Faldo's 220-yard stroke on the last hole was hit with a three wood and the way it flew from the middle of the fairway, piercing the darkness of a wet morning to stop a few feet from its target, meant it was a stroke that Faldo will not forget in a hurry. Nor is the memory of it likely to dim quickly in the eyes of the bedraggled spectators who were fortunate to see it.

As shots by Faldo go, it approaches in quality and accuracy the three-wood shot with which he snatched victory in the Doral Ryder Open in the United States in March last year and the stunning two-iron on the 13th hole of the last round of the Masters, even though the pressure he was under yesterday morning was as nothing compared with those occasions.

Faldo is his own sternest judge and even he was impressed with it. "I thundered it," he said. "My maximum with a three-wood is 230 yards. This pitched 220 yards and hopped up." When shots such as this are combined with

one of his best putting rounds of the year — he holed putts varying in length from three to 30 feet — then it is easy to see why Faldo leads by one stroke from Paul Curry and Mark McNulty and two from Rocca, Robert Allenby and Ignacio Garrido.

On the 6th, there came one of those little cameos that remain in the memory long after the details of a round have faded into the mists of time. As Faldo, Ian Woosnam and Stephen Ames prepared to putt it was discovered that the flag was immovable. Woosnam walked up to it and had a go at removing it. He failed, so Faldo was called in.

With his height and leverage he ought to have been able to dislodge it. No luck. Ames, the champion at The Oxfordshire last week, took his turn. Still no success.

In such circumstances, rather as in golf itself, technique triumphs over strength, lest in removing the flag the metal cup is wrenched out of the ground or the side of the hole is dented or gouged. The three of them tried twisting the flag and turning it and so did their caddies. Faldo even gave it a kick, to no avail. It took a big heave by Woosnam, the mighty mite, before the flag was removed whereupon Faldo holed his putt of 20 feet.

## SCORES FROM WENTWORTH

Great Britain and Ireland unless stated  
EARLY FIRST-ROUND LEADERS: 67: N Faldo, 68: P Curry, M McNulty (Zim), 69: J Garrido (Sp), R Allenby (Aus), 70: J Sordani (Swe), E Davis, J Hazzard (Swe), P Eades, J M Carrazzani (Sp), W Westner (SA), R Davis (Aus), S Cope, 71: D Carter, S Gumpleson (Nz), T Johnston (Zim), H Clark, E Rizzotto (Arg), D Gilford, A Cejka (Ger), J Robson, S Straver (Ger), S Tinning (Den), J Hawkes (SA), G Orr, P Way, R Chapman, M Gronberg (Swe), S Torrance, A Collett, R Bostall.  
72: T Egan (Ire), M Moulard, P Fulle (Swe), J Gierston, F Nobilo (NZ), P O'Malley (Aus), G Turner (NZ), M Larnier (Swe), F Tenaud (Fr), M A Jimenez (Sp), D Cooper, 73: T Price (Aus), L McGovern, L Fielding, J Woodman, J Sherry (SC United), R Lussier (Tampa Bay Mutiny), E Stewart (Winn R), E Wynne (San Jose Clash).

R Wilson, R Muntz (Hol), S Martin, T Level (Fr), J Higgins, M Davis, M Ros, J Spence, D Feherty, C Montgomerie, B Langer (Ger).  
74: M Fanny (Fr), M Paxon, M Harwood (Aus), A Lyle, P Baker, A Bossert (Swe), J Parnevik (Swe), C Mason, D Smyth, C O'Connor Jr, P Broadhurst, P Carman, M Hallberg (Swe), R Drummond, M Litton, P Sjoland (Swe), 75: G Howell, J Lomas, P Wallon, P-U Johansson (Swe), C Hall, M MacKenzie, M McLennan, P Price, S Richardson, S Thompson, A Forsbrand (Swe), R Rafferty.  
76: P Tervahinen (US), R Clayton, J Townsend (US), P Moloney (Aus), A Hunter, I Fymer, R Truex, 77: C Coates (Arg), O Rojahn (Nor), C Smetle, M Pinaro (Sp), S Ballesteros (Sp), 78: J Morgan, R Martin, T Spence, 79: G Coates (Fr), 80: M Clayton (Aus), 81: D Borrego (Sp).

## Carson could retire at end of season

By JULIAN MUSCAT

WILLIE CARSON, a man never short of words, gave a clear indication yesterday that he will trade in his riding boots for carpet slippers at the end of the Flat racing season.

Carson has always dismissed questions about retirement, but he was in reflective mood when asked whether he might be riding in the Derby for the last time on June 8. "I would think it's highly likely this will be my last Derby," Carson, the five-time champion jockey, said. "I have been going at the top for the past 35 years, so I've had a very good run."

Carson's comments, aired on Radio 5 Live, came during a turbulent season in which he has failed to achieve his own high standards. He has won each of the five British classics at least three times, but his once-acute sense of judgment has betrayed him.

The most notable example came at Lingfield last Saturday. With a minor race at his mercy, Carson, 53, prematurely eased down on Kamari, the odds-on favourite, and was caught in the dying strides. He was banned for seven days and left the weighing room by a back door, later describing the incident as one of the worst moments in his career.

"It was a terrible mistake," he said. "I regret it, but I don't think age had anything to do with it. My pride has been absolutely devastated." Other events on that bleak day may well have prompted Carson to contemplate quitting.

Earlier, at Newbury, he could only apologise for the ride that he gave Nabhaan, who forfeited a winning opportunity when Carson allowed himself to get trapped behind a wall of horses in the



Carson mistakes

London Gold Cup Stakes. He was criticised for his handling of Bint Salsabil, who was tenderly ridden when caught in the closing stages of the Nell Gwyn Stakes at Newmarket last month.

For the past seven seasons, Carson has worked as retained jockey to Sheikh Hamdan Al-Maktoum and has hinted that, without the arrangement, he would probably have retired some time ago. Indeed, it is widely believed that the promise shown by Al-Maktoum towards the end of last season prompted Carson to ride for another year. Yet he said of the colt, beaten on both his outings before the Derby: "He has been very disappointing — but if he won the Derby it would be a great ending, a fairy-tale."

## Vialli joins foreign legion

By RUSSELL KEMPSON

GIANLUCA VIALLI, the Italian forward, signed for Chelsea yesterday, two days after leading Juventus to victory against Ajax in the European Cup final. Though there was no transfer fee involved, it is believed that he will earn £3 million over three years. "My English is poor, and I will have to take courses in London, but I know the value of the pound," Vialli said.

West Ham United have also jumped aboard the post-Bosman gravy train, which now allows players to join new employers for nothing — apart from vast pay packets — when their contracts expire. Paulo Futre, the former Portugal international, is to move from AC Milan to Upton Park after agreeing a two-year deal.

Chelsea's capture of Vialli, who is 32 in July, is no surprise. They have been negotiating with Claudio Pasqualin, his agent, for weeks and finally managed to fend off the attentions of other suitors, including Rangers. It is the first signing of Ruud Gullit, Chelsea's new player-



Vialli: free transfer

manager, Colin Hutchinson. Chelsea's managing director, said: "He could have earned more money elsewhere, but the lure of Ruud and London enabled us to pull off this coup. Ruud is on holiday at the moment, but we have faxed him with the news."

Vialli made all the right noises yesterday. "Ruud is a good friend of mine, he speaks Italian," he said. "I will feel at home with him. It will be a sort of rebirth for me and I expect to get new motivations. I gave and received a lot during four years with Juventus. I'm leaving without any grudges. It was a divorce by mutual consent."

His credentials are impressive, but he will be hoping for better fortunes than Andrea Silenzi, who became the Premiership's first import from Serie A when he joined Nottingham Forest last summer. He has started only eight games and scored two goals.

Vialli is not playing in the European championship finals in England next month because of a long-standing feud with Arrigo Sacchi, the Italy coach. Sacchi has left him out of his squad.

Still, Vialli's signing was greeted with enthusiasm by his new colleagues. Nigel Spackman, the midfield player, said: "He is one of the top strikers in the world and would fit into any team." John Spencer, the forward, said: "You can only listen and learn from such class players."

Barbly ready, page 43

## Scots to keep rivals guessing

FROM KEVIN MCCARRA  
IN HARTFORD  
CONNECTICUT

IT CAN be hard to tell the difference between disarray and guile. The Scotland football team that meets the United States in New Britain, Connecticut, tomorrow may not bear much resemblance to the side that will compete in the European championship finals. Only some of the distortions to the line-up are unavoidable.

Andy Goram, Billy McKinlay and Ally McCoist all have minor knocks that rule them out. Craig Brown, the Scotland manager, is, however, also propagating disinformation, since he knows that the match will be watched by representatives of the rivals to be faced in June — Holland, England and Switzerland. Accordingly, Gary McAllister, his captain, and, since his transfer this week to AS Monaco, John Collins, his most affluent player, will probably be rested.

The trip to the United States is designed to provide relaxation and the largest audience

that Scotland will face was crammed into Madison Square Garden on Thursday night when the squad joined Rod Stewart on stage at his concert. There are respects, however, in which Scotland cannot avoid being in earnest.

For years, Brown has been searching for a dynamic forward to score goals and give the team impetus, but his auditions have not gone well. The latest candidate is Gordon Durie, whose resurgence with Rangers, for whom he struck a hat-trick in the Tonnets Scottish Cup final last weekend, has brought him back into contention for Scotland. He will lead the attack against the United States.

Brown, however, may have the unsettling feeling that other decisions are being taken for him. Goram's absence, with a hip injury, means that he not started a match for Scotland since December 1994. He lost his status as first-choice goalkeeper when he declined to play against Greece in August of last year, claiming that he was not "mentally attuned".

It had been assumed, none-

## TEAMS

SCOTLAND (probable, 3-5-2): J Leighton (Hibernian) — C Calderwood (Tottenham Hotspur), C Hendry (Blackburn Rovers), D Whyte (Middlesbrough) — C Bailey (Chelsea), S Gemmill (Nottingham Forest), S McCall (Rangers), E Jones (Coventry City), T Boyd (Colt) — G Durie (Rangers), S Booth (Aberdeen).

UNITED STATES (probable, 4-3-3): J Sweeney (Luton Town) — M Balboa (Colorado Rapids), A Lala (New England Revolution), M Burke (New England Revolution), J Agos (DC United) — C Reyna (Orlando), T Francis (New York/New Jersey MetroStars), J Sherry (DC United) — R Lussier (Tampa Bay Mutiny), E Stewart (Winn R), E Wynne (San Jose Clash).

theless, that he would be reinstated in time for the European championship, but, with the tournament imminent, his return might almost be disruptive. Goram should be fit to play against Colombia in Miami on Wednesday, but Scotland may feel that they should maintain continuity by keeping faith with Jim Leighton, even if he is slightly less gifted.

Leighton, the Hibernian goalkeeper, will have opportunities once again to demonstrate his worth tomorrow. The United States, as England found when they lost here in 1993, are a respectable force in

international football and Scotland arrive just as the game here has begun a process of transformation. Despite all the scepticism at home and abroad, Major League Soccer (MLS), the country's new professional league, is taking root.

It began only in April, but crowds have climbed as high as 69,000, in Los Angeles, and the average attendance is an encouraging 28,000. MLS should also underpin the national team, improving its prospects. For the first time, Steve Sampson, the United States coach, does not have to gather his squad from outposts overseas. Indeed, as many as nine of the team tomorrow could be MLS players.

The United States have become intimidating in recent years, even beating Argentina 3-0 in the Copa America in Uruguay last year, but the impressive infrastructure now in place should make them even more effective. Scotland must ensure that their game with the United States' finest does not become an advert for the vigour of MLS.



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# Algerian militants cut the throats of Trappist monks

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

FRANCE reacted with shock and outrage yesterday to the murder of seven French Trappist monks — aged 50 to 82 — by Islamic extremists in Algeria. There were calls for mass rallies in France to deplore the killings.

The Pope condemned the "barbaric killings" as "one of the saddest chapters in the history of Algeria — an offence to God and man".

Responsibility for the killings has been claimed by the militant Armed Islamic Group, the GIA, which was behind last summer's bombing campaign in France. It

issued a statement saying: "We have slit the throats of the seven monks". The monks were kidnapped two months ago from their monastery in the town of Medea, 45 miles south of Algiers.

The murders have not been confirmed, but the French Foreign Ministry said the claim appeared genuine since the guerrilla communiqué, broadcast over Tangiers radio, alluded to a cassette recording and a letter received from the captive monks on April 31, which had not been made public. "The people who sent this knew what they were

talking about," a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

Charles Millon, the Defence Minister, said: "This is a sign of violent and intolerant terrorism, aimed at people who simply dedicate their lives to prayer and to others."

At Notre Dame cathedral in Paris, Cardinal Jean-Marie Lustiger, the Archbishop of Paris, extinguished seven candles lit by Christians, Muslims and Jews last month. "The candles represented hope for their lives. I wanted them to burn forever," he said.

The monks were the last Trappists remaining in Algeria. A total of 116 foreign nationals have been killed by Algerian Islamic extremists since 1993, and the monks' deaths bring the number of French citizens killed to 30.

The GIA, the most militant of the groups battling to turn Algeria into an Islamic state, accuses Paris of providing economic and military support to the Algerian Government. In 1993 the group ordered all foreigners to leave the country. The extremists' statement said that the monks had been killed because Paris refused to hold negotiations over the release of GIA suspects held in France.



Cardinal Jean-Marie Lustiger prays for the monks, killed by order of Djamel Zitouni, the GIA leader, below

"They broke off the process and so we slit the throats of the monks. Thus we have executed our threat, as we swore to do before God," said the communiqué from the group.

Medea is known to be a GIA stronghold, but the monks maintained friendly relations with the guerrilla forces, referring to them as "our mountain brothers". The seven were abducted after armed militants gained entry to the monastery by claiming that one of them needed medical

attention from 82-year-old Brother Luc, a doctor.

France once again called on Algerian citizens in Algeria to leave the country immediately, noting that the fate of the monks "confirms yet again the extreme danger in Algeria for isolated people who are particularly exposed".

More than 40,000 people have died in political and religious violence in Algeria since 1992, when the army intervened to cancel elections which fundamentalists were

poised to win. President Zouari of Algeria said he would seek to end the conditions "which led to or helped this tragedy which is drowning Algeria in grief". He said he would restore order in the country through dialogue and reforms.

"It is now certain that the monks have been assassinated," said Alain Juppé, the French Prime Minister, adding a personal plea for French nationals to leave Algeria as soon as possible.



## WORLD SUMMARY

### Leader of Colombia is cleared

PRESIDENT SAMPER of Colombia appears to have been off demands for his impeachment, after a parliamentary commission investigating accusations that he took drug money recommended that he be absolved (David Adams writes).

The committee argued that the evidence showed the President had no knowledge of an estimated \$6 million (£3.9 million) in contributions to his 1994 election campaign.

### India confident about hostages

Kokarnag, Kashmir: The British, American and German Governments have been told by Indian authorities that four Western hostages kidnapped by the Al Faran group more than ten months ago are probably alive (Christopher Thomas writes). The last credible sighting was in December in the Himalayan foothills.

### State must pay for oil deaths

Madrid: A court here ordered the state to pay £38,700 for each of 1,200 people who have died since 1981 after consuming contaminated cooking oil. Lesser sums are to be paid for disabled survivors. One civil servant was fined £105 for approving the oil but six others were acquitted. (AFP)

### Bulgarian king returns home

Sofia: Simeon II, the Bulgarian king forced into exile when he was nine by the Communists, is due back today for the first time in 50 years. He has been invited for a three-week stay by a group of 101 intellectuals for discussions about the country's future. (AFP)

### Virus deadline

Geneva: The World Health Organisation recommended destroying the world's last stocks of the smallpox virus in 1999, giving scientists time to find any remaining stocks of the killer virus. (Reuters)

## US Army beaten in screen wars

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

THE US Army demanded plot changes to a coming film about the Gulf War when producers asked to borrow military equipment.

The draft script of *Courage Under Fire*, starring Meg Ryan and Denzel Washington, portrayed an army cover-up of a fictitious "friendly fire" incident in the Gulf War in which an American soldier died accidentally at the hands of his own side. When the film's producers asked to hire army equipment at reduced rates, the military liaison office for Hollywood replied that it would be available only if certain lines were dropped from the script.

Parts of the film are based on the real story of Corporal Douglas Fielder, one of 35 American servicemen (and some British personnel) killed by US friendly fire in the war. The film will be released in America this summer.

Washington's character, an embattled colonel, was portrayed as something of a drinker. The army said it would rather he did not and that he should kindly mention the military rehabilitation programme for alcoholics. Also, did he have to beat someone up and quite so clearly hold a low opinion of the Pentagon? Executives for 20th Century Fox began by negotiating with

the army, but with both sides playing "hardball" things did not go well. Army officials expressed distaste that Ryan's helicopter pilot was described as "butch", a word with Sapphic connotations. Nor did it help that a hospital for veterans was to be presented as "a living hell". The central plank of the story, the military cover-up, was a phenomenon entirely unrecognised by the army.

The producers needed 12 M1 Abrams tanks and knew that the army was the cheapest supplier. When the negotiations started to break down, the film-makers looked elsewhere and ended by hiring 12 Centurions from Australia.

Kathy Ross, a civilian at the Hollywood offices of the US Army's public affairs unit, said yesterday: "We tried to be as helpful as we could. We like to make films more accurate." She denied that there had been any pressure to clean up the film, but agreed that films about military life are vital "recruiting sergeants".

A producer on the film said that the army had tried to impose "micro-management". Its line-by-line script suggestions "went well beyond issues of concept and theme", he told the *Wall Street Journal*. The negotiations went through five scripts before the producers finally lost patience.



Ryan plays "butch" helicopter pilot

## Heseltine undermines Patten on democracy

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

MICHAEL HESELTINE, the Deputy Prime Minister, yesterday undermined Chris Patten's fundamental insistence that Hong Kong's economic success was based on the rule of law and its political freedoms.

During a stop-over in Hong Kong after a week in China, Mr Heseltine said repeatedly that Hong Kong and China have an "identity of interest", which he invariably identified as economic.

For three years Mr Patten, the Governor, has emphasised that "modest democracy", including a wholly and fairly

elected Legislative Council, underpins the continuing success and stability of Hong Kong. By contrast, Mr Heseltine, who led 270 businessmen to China, said that Hong Kong's stability and prosperity depended on its economic connections with China.

He said he had been reassured on that point by Li Peng, the Chinese Prime Minister, and by President Jiang Zemin whom he had met yesterday in the port city of Zhu Hai, just across the border.

Silence of a billion, page 18

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## Self-made capitalist in designer clothes proves Communists have ditched dogmatic straitjacket

## 'Red Banker' shows profit

WHEN Russians shudder at the thought of Communist hardliners regaining power, they imagine the revenge of elderly generals with chests of medals, grey-haired bureaucrats in ill-fitting suits and shadowy KGB secret policemen with dark glasses.

"People just jump to conclusions; we are not like that any more," said Vladimir Semago, who is living proof that the Russian Communist Party of today has certainly changed since it was driven from power five years ago. Dressed in French designer clothes, Mr Semago looks more like an aspiring tycoon on Wall Street than a potential hero of socialist labour. Even when he reaches into his well-tailored sports jacket to pluck out his party membership book, he gives the clear impression that the document is about as far as his socialist credentials go.

## MOSCOW FILE

by RICHARD BEESTON



"There are 11 of us entrepreneurs who are also Communist deputies in the Duma," he said in his spacious Moscow office. "There would be nothing strange if this was Italy or some other country, but because it is Russia people are surprised."

The former construction engineer, 49, opened a small café during the reform era a decade ago and never looked back. Today his empire includes a bank, several restaurants, a casino and the Moscow Commercial Club, the capital's first elite gentlemen's club, copied from the

London model. Not surprisingly, the capitalist exploits of the "Red Banker", as he is nicknamed, have not gone down well with many of his fellow Communists. Aleksandr Shabanov, the Number Three in the leadership, recently questioned whether Mr Semago should be allowed to remain in the party. Viktor Anpilov, the Stalinist chief of another headline Communist faction, made it clear this week that all banks should be privatised and bankers turned into bureaucrats or factory workers.

"Of course, there are people

who resent me, but their views are old-fashioned, and frankly Anpilov is a joke," said Mr Semago, confidently predicting that the social democrats within the party would eventually triumph. "Many of our supporters today do not want to go back to the Soviet era. They are just voting for us because they want to change the current system."

He even argued that today's Communists in Russia would actually benefit private businesses because those operating in today's market were currently forced to work with corrupt government officials and powerful "mafia" groups. "I am not in favour of punishing honest businessmen, but I am for rooting out those people who gained their wealth illegally by stripping the state of its assets," he said, in a pointed threat to several leading figures close to the Yeltsin Government.

After the "pragmatic Communists" have restored Russia's greatness, Mr Semago believes that once again the adapted Communist ideology can be exported. "It may take decades to achieve, but the world is a small place and we share many common problems, like the environment. If we get it right in Russia, people will follow our lead."



Vladimir Semago: "We do not want to go back to the Soviet era"

## Candidates let cats and dogs out of the bag

WHEN Russia's presidential candidates complain that the campaign has become too Western, they mean that they are tired of the media's relentless delving into their personal lives.

Not content with putting the candidates' spouses under the spotlight, the press is now focusing on their pets. In a country where owning a pedigree dog can be the ultimate status symbol, Gennadi Zyuganov, the humourless Communist candidate, in an effort to project a "softer" image, let it be known that the real love of his life is Vaska. The cat is a red-and-yellow tabby, the same colours as the Communist flag.

Not to be outdone, General Aleksandr Lebed, the tough former paratrooper and nationalist candidate, was also keen to prove that behind the brawn he has heart. His party revealed that his real love is Cheswick, a bouncy English sheepdog, and Kuza his cat.

As for the leading liberal candidate, Grigori Yavlinsky is a true democrat when it comes to his pets. He has a pure-bred alsatian and a stray.

Not surprisingly, Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, the ultra-nationalist leader, has an ambiguous record. While the extremist loved his horse, he was far more secretive about the death of his pet dog.

The candidate with the worst pet rating is President Yeltsin. His office refused to say what animals, if any, he kept, leading to speculation that he may be a secret animal-hater.

## Jokes give Yeltsin the last laugh

WHEN a Russian reporter was discovered trying to conceal a tape recorder in a conference room used by Communist Party deputies at the Duma, the lower house of parliament, colleagues wondered why she had bothered. While Communist plotting might make interesting reading, according to opinion polls most Russians have already made up

their minds that, win or lose, President Yeltsin will still be in the Kremlin after the presidential elections.

The conventional wisdom is best summed up by the latest joke circulating in Moscow: "Have you heard the election results? The Communists got 55 per cent of the vote, and Yeltsin did even better."

## The Rock's old enemy adopts a softer approach

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN MADRID

A SPANISH politician who once urged "an iron attitude" against Gibraltar is pressing Madrid to be more conciliatory in its dealings with the British territory.

César Braña, the man to whom Gibraltarians have traditionally attributed all frontier delays and harassment, retires today as Civil Governor

of Cádiz. On the eve of his departure, he has said that "Spain must have in mind the sentiments, thoughts and opinions of the Gibraltarian people".

In an interview with the *Gibraltar Chronicle* published today, Señor Braña calls on José María Aznar's Government to restart the "Seville process" — the formula by which Spanish, British and Gibraltarian representatives met in the Andalusian city in February and November 1995 to

discuss a range of practical issues, excluding sovereignty. Abel Matutes, the Spanish Foreign Minister, is believed to have regarded the Seville process as a "sell-out" to Joe Bossano, the former Chief Minister of Gibraltar. Expressing careful satisfaction at the election of a new Government on the Rock, Señor Braña says he believes the time had come for "good neighbourliness" and "mutual confidence" between the citizens of Gibraltar

and the neighbouring Campo region in Spain. Describing Señor Matutes as "hard line", Señor Braña emphasises that he has "never personally been a party to the possibility of closing the border".

Asked for his views on the future of the Rock, the outgoing Civil Governor hints at a preference for Madrid and London to distance themselves from the issue. "Progress on Gibraltar must be done at the local level," he said.

## Art police line up lost treasures

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

AN ART exhibition with a difference has opened in Rome — the show, mounted by the police, has half the paintings missing. The aim is to shock the public into realising how many treasures disappear from Italy's churches and museums.

The missing masterpieces are represented by copies and photographs. According to Colonel Roberto Conforti, head of the Carabinieri's anti-art-theft unit, 30,000 art objects are stolen in Italy every year. The main problem is that much of Italy's vast artistic heritage is kept in poorly guarded churches.

The exhibition, dubbed the "museum of ghost paintings" by Rome art critics, is being held at the Castel Sant' Angelo, near the Vatican. Perhaps the best known lost masterpiece is Caravaggio's last work, his magnificent *Nativity*, which was stolen in 1969.

Half the exhibition is proudly devoted to works which the Carabinieri have successfully tracked down and recovered. But Colonel Conforti said both the public and the church authorities needed to be more vigilant.

## Albanian leader jeered by voters

FROM JAMES PETTIFER IN TIRANA

ON THE muddy football pitch in the little lowland town of Marmuras, the Albanian voters are waiting for their President. With parliamentary elections due tomorrow, they have their chance to give a verdict on the last four years of Sali Berisha's Democratic Party Government.

Marmuras has some bright lights, shops and many little kiosks, all a sign of his post-Communist achievement. It also has very high unemployment and derelict housing blocks. Most people depend on money from relatives working in Italy or Greece.

President Berisha arrives in his black Mercedes with curtained windows and a heavy posse of security guards. The welcome is less than rapturous. His speech concentrates heavily on patriotism and the threat to the Albanian homeland posed by the Red Front, the opposition Socialists. Although local Democratic Party cheerleaders do their best, the speech is met with whistles and boos.

Although some opinion polls have shown him holding on to enough of his 1992 vote to win, most local observers feel that, providing the election is fair, which is open to question,

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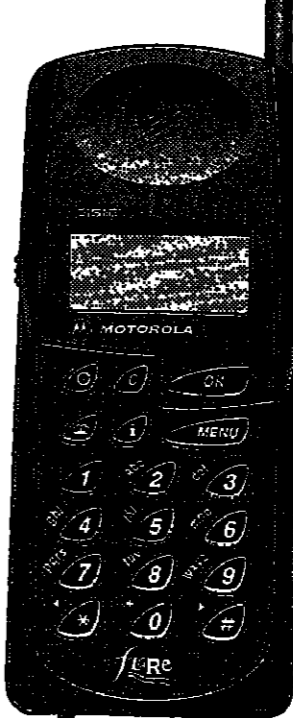
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OPINION

**Darcey Bussell and the Royal Ballet wow Norway, but French diplomacy strikes back**

THEATRE 1

**Calamity Jane rides into the Wells, but even Gemma Craven stumbles in this laboured staging**

THE TIMES ARTS

THEATRE 2

**... while another classic movie, *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes*, comes to the stage in Birmingham**

BASE NOTES

**Placido Domingo will take part in a fundraising gala for the Royal Opera House redevelopment**

# A fishy tale and a British triumph

You will probably be wondering why I am dispatching this column from an excellent fish restaurant in Bergen, Norway. Colleagues tell me that the Editor, too, has taken a keen interest in this subject. Well, I will tell you the same thing as I shall tell him. Then, if my amusing little face is mysteriously erased from this page next week, you may guess the reason.

The fact is that I am reporting on a British cultural triumph. It may look like a plate of herrings to you, but appearances are deceptive. For two weeks, Bergen has made itself the centre of the arts world. It has revamped its festival as an event of ambitious international scope. As they joke in Norway: "Be there, or be Swedish." (It's probably funnier in Norwegian.)

And British performers are playing a key part. Indeed, the festival's opening performance is delivered by no less an ensemble than the Royal Ballet, and a tremendous impression it makes with Twyla Tharp's *Mr Worldly*

Wise. Not everything goes according to plan, perhaps: at one point the divine Darcey Bussell collides gracefully with the scenery (darling, it was *definitely* the scenery's fault). At the end, however, King Harald himself leads his subjects in a standing ovation for the British dancers.

For some reason, probably a misunderstanding, I am seated for these opening events in the midst of Norway's entire diplomatic community. Wonderful entertainment! The British Ambassador smiles quietly and basks in his compatriots' glory. The French Ambassador, however, realises that he has work to do if he is to regain the cultural initiative. "I have been researching the origin of the Norwegian flag," he tells me. "It seems probable that the colours red, white and blue were borrowed by the Norwegians from

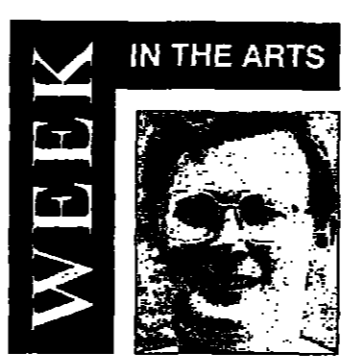
the French Tricolour to convey the spirit of liberty."

I ponder this historical bombshell. Surely the red in the Norwegian flag is deeper, more like maroon? But even weightier conundrums lie ahead. The German chargé d'affaires approaches, wearing a puzzled frown. "The title of this ballet," he says. "How would you translate *Mr Worldly* Wise, please?"

"Into German?" I croak, trying to conceal my rising panic.

"No," he replies. "Into English."

Later the British Ambassador hosts a splendid lunch to fête the Royal Ballet. I find myself sitting next to a young Norwegian gloriously bedecked in a blazer embroidered with gold brocade. Suspecting that he might be the Bergen town bandmaster, I ask him what his day job is.



RICHARD MORRISON

"I am Mick Jagger's physiotherapist," he replies.

Is this more Norwegian humour? Should I riposte with "... and I am Keith Richards's personal chaplain"? But no. It turns out

that my blazered friend is exactly what he claims. On his shoulders falls the onerous responsibility of easing the aches, pains and pelvic stress fractures of the world's longest-running rock legend.

He rose only gradually to this pre-eminent position in the world of physiotherapy. For a while after studying in Britain, he tells me, he administered the magic sponge on the hacked shins of footballers, first at Dundee United and then at Crystal Palace. After that he was engaged to nurture the rather more comely physiques of the Royal Ballet. Then his skills were spotted by Jagger.

So how does Jagger drag those 53-year-old limbs together for yet another show? "He's a highly intelligent man," the physio says. "He will do half an hour of serious warm-up exercises before each performance, just like any athlete."

The Stones have postponed the latest leg of their tour, so the physio has been temporarily laid off. "Still," he muses cheerfully, "I'm off to the Canaries next week to look after some windsurfers."

I decide that I want to be a physiotherapist. Then I start to imagine what gruesome daily tasks might be required to revive the raddled Jagger torso, and decide to stick with journalism.

Meanwhile, one topic dominates conversation in Norway's musical community, and it is a sad one: the heart attack that has struck down Marius Jansons, the magnificent Latvian conductor who has raised the Oslo Philharmonic to world-class standard and was recently appointed as Lorin Maazel's successor in Pittsburgh.

It happened in dramatic circum-

stances. Jansons was conducting what was, by all accounts, a highly-charged performance of *La Bohème* in Oslo, and had reached the final death scene when he collapsed. He will be out of action for many weeks, though the Oslo Philharmonic still hopes that he will lead its visits to the Proms and Edinburgh Festival in August.

"He worked far too much," a Norwegian impresario says. "It was bound to happen." Perhaps. But Jansons's generous way of making music - 200 per cent commitment all the time - must have been equally sapping.

By coincidence I have just finished reading the late Peter Heyworth's masterly account of Klemperer's life (now published in its full, two-volume glory). One does not wish ill-health on anybody. But sometimes, as with Klemperer, a great musician produces something extraordinary after serious illness. So too, I hope, with Jansons. The world has too few conductors of his calibre and, at 53, he has much more to say.

# Even cowgirls get the boos

THEATRE  
**Calamity Jane**  
Sadler's Wells

Once upon a time (in 1953) this was a film, and Doris Day went whip crack, and away went the stage from Sioux City to Deadwood. Now the film has become a theatre show and it is Gemma Craven's turn to lie on top of the stagecoach and take pot shots at Indians. Two come jerkily behind her, crouched on mechanical steeds, jostling for pole position like the Derby runners in the Drury Lane melodramas of 100 years ago. But no matter how furiously the driver belabours his horse, the creature never moves, not even to jerk its mechanical head.

I thought this pretty pathetic in a big-scale touring show. But when the horses came back again, and again, and eventually (at the end) when Jane's gallops backwards, I understood that these ridiculous animals were a joke.

Jane's log cabin that rotates in the usual manner, so that having seen the outside we will see the inside, provides another joke when she and her various guests are disconcerted by a cabin that thinks it is a roundabout. This is a Post-Modernist sort of joke but it is the only thing in the show that gets anywhere near modernity.

Of course several of the songs are enjoyably old-fashioned and justifiably became



Whip crack away: Gemma Craven and the cast of *Calamity Jane* in full cry. The songs are the best part of the show

standards before any of the youthful chorus were born: *Windy City*, *Secret Love*, though Craven delivers it here with an odd huskiness, and the wistful *Black Hills of Dakota*. Paul Francis Webster's lyrics for this are embarrassingly banal - though elsewhere he rhymes "Philadelphia" with "I'll never ring a bell fyer" - but Sammy Fain's melody is the essence of dreamy nostalgia, and Paul Kerryson's production does not let us forget it. First the locals sway from side to side in the moonlight, then the melo-

dy comes back as a waltz and we have more than enough ballroom dancing to go with it.

The show has enjoyed a successful tour, and doubtless will bring comfort to many fans during its three-week stay at the Wells, but apart from the songs and those jokes with the horses and the spinning cabin, it is not a great evening.

Wild Bill Hickok (Stephen McCann) is not much of a role. Grace Kinross has a chance to show her legs as Katie Brown, the dresser to a Chicago star who turns in seconds from a shy incompe-

tent to a full-throated entertainer.

And then there is Craven, so good in *South Pacific* but rather unappealing in this argumentative and tomboyish role. The assumptions of the piece are also politically incorrect to a ludicrous degree with the blather about the daft way women think. Nothing about how piercingly they can sing when gathered into a chorus to go squawk, squeak, squeak, whoop and, of course, whip crack.

JEREMY KINGSTON

## Playing fast and Loos

ANTHONY Clark's stage revival of *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes* is not the screenplay with the big numbers made in 1953. He has gone back to the 1920s play, Anita Loos's own dramatisation of her original monthly serial for *Harper's*

*Bazaar*. Some of the basic ingredients here are the same as in the film: two gals from Little Rock; a cruise liner to Paris; leering codgers; wives demanding the return of their tiaras. However, Loos's theatrical protagonists are surpris-

ingly different from their celluloid reincarnations.

This means actress Lucy Akhurst, thankfully, does not have to match Marilyn Monroe every inch of the way. Akhurst's Lorelei, for starters, is a flapper and receives praise for her flat chest. Less fortunately, she also lacks defining characteristics. She neither acts laughably dumb nor pumps out pure sex appeal. Meanwhile the brassy brunette Dorothy seems more fed up than sassy and sparky.

**Gentlemen Prefer Blondes**  
Birmingham Rep

not helped by Victoria Scarborough's slack comic timing. Because the central performances are so watery, the production has a hole in the middle. Still, the supporting cast animate cameo roles with real brio. James Dreyfus steals the show with his preposterous nymphomaniacal parlour maid and his poisonous drag spinster, mealy-mouthed, mincing stiffly and taking hugely undignified numbles.

KATE BASSETT

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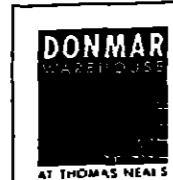
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# At last, Glasgow belongs to him

The attitude of Glasgow to one of its more distinguished sons, Charles Rennie Mackintosh, changed radically in the mid-1970s. Up to then, although his architectural masterpiece, the Glasgow School of Art, was accepted with tolerant affection, Mackintosh was regarded largely as a man with an unfortunate knack of building right in the way of planned ring-roads and flyovers.

Then, 20 years ago, that changed. A chair by Mackintosh came up in a London auction and was sold for the unheard-of sum of £9,000. Today it does not sound very much: two relatively ordinary, careworn chairs in the Fine Art Society's newly opened Spring '96 show are priced at £40,000 each. But back in those days £9,000 proved what had formerly been in doubt: that whatever might be thought of Mackintosh's aesthetic virtues, the products of his fertile talent were worth serious money. Overnight, he became a national treasure.

The Willow Rooms, the only one of Mackintosh's famous tearooms to survive, was re-constituted in 1980. Mackintosh's own house was reconstructed on the university campus in 1981. The College of Art, now equipped with its own Mackintosh gift shop, is besieged with visitors.

The extent of current Mackintosh frenzy can be gauged by the huge new show *Charles Rennie Mackintosh*, which is due to travel from the McLellan Galleries to the Metropolitan in New York, the Art Institute of Chicago and Los Angeles County Museum. The show does not even, as is usual these days, coincide with any obvious anniversary, since Mackintosh was born in 1868 and died in 1928. But there is no doubt that the time is ripe for a major re-evaluation, and this is it.

Every now and then the presentation perhaps gets a little too gimmicky, as with the columns equipped with eye and nose holes at the top, to which one bends in order to observe stereoscopic colour pictures of the School of Art, or the corner structures which purport to tell us about "the real Mackintosh" through long inscriptions reflected in mirrors. But, by and large, the show does its best to stand in for what is missing (the buildings themselves) with exhaustive documentation of Mackintosh's own exquisite original drawings, early and new photographs, and some outstanding models, works of art in their own right.

Also, the most imagination-grabbing section of the whole exhibition, the Ladies Luncheon Room from the Ingram Street tearooms, stored in



One of the famous Mackintosh tearooms — that in Ingram Street — reconstructed at the McLellan Galleries

boxes for the past 20 years, is reconstructed in its entirety.

Mackintosh believed, and persuaded many of his clients to believe, in unity of effect, so that he was called upon to design furniture, fixtures and fittings, and many such items are shown to advantage. The chairs in particular have become so popular an image, and so widely reproduced, that it is sometimes difficult to strip away preconceptions and look clearly at the things themselves. One does sometimes wonder whether they would actually be very comfortable to sit on, but there is no gainsaying their effect as instantly recognisable sculptural objects.

While much of the furniture does conform to the stereotypical

view of Mackintosh's own vertically unchallenged, largely rectilinear brand of Art Nouveau, it is good also to be reminded of his sadly short-lived later phase when, towards the end of the First World War, he found a new patron in the Northampton manufacturer W.J. Bassett-Lowke and evolved a new, jazzy, strongly coloured style which, alas, he was never able to develop further. (Incidentally, the sudden prominence of vivid yellows in these decorative schemes is apparently due to the fact that Bassett-Lowke was colour-blind, and yellow was the only colour he could clearly distinguish.)

The reason that the Bassett-Lowke commissions had no progeny was that Mackintosh

had fallen on hard times. By 1914 he was so desperate for work that he resorted in London, where he was little known and out of tune with current taste. There he did any work that came to hand, and a roomful of textile designs testifies he was still far in advance of his potential clientele.

In 1923 he moved to the South of France and concentrated entirely on watercolours, mostly landscapes crisply delineated in his own parallel to Cubist segmentation. These are extraordinarily beautiful and expressive, and demonstrate that his creativity was not at all diminished in his last, sad years.

The main thing that could be urged against the show is that it does not tell us enough

about Mackintosh's context. How, precisely, did his evolution relate to that of kindred figures such as Frank Lloyd Wright and the Viennese school of Hoffmann and Loos? It would be good to learn more specifically about his fruitful partnership with his wife, Margaret Macdonald, and with her sister and brother-in-law Frances and Herbert MacNair.

But these are small cavils. Whatever its former shortcomings, Glasgow has finally done Mackintosh proud.

**JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR**

Charles Rennie Mackintosh is at the McLellan Galleries, 270 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow (0141-331 1854) until Sept 30

# New, original Mackintosh

In December 1900, a German interior design magazine launched a competition to design a House for an Art Lover. Charles Rennie Mackintosh submitted an entry in 1901, but was initially disqualified. He re-submitted a portfolio of designs and they were awarded a special purchase prize. The designs were published, and enhanced Mackintosh's growing international reputation.

In January 1988 Graham Roxburgh, a consulting engineer, and his stepdaughter Melanie Lang, hatched an idea to build the House for an Art Lover. On a lunchtime jog through Bellahouston Park in Glasgow, Roxburgh found the perfect site, with a walled garden lying next to it. He asked Andrew MacMillan, head of the Mackintosh School of Architecture in Glasgow, to prepare the plans. Missing details had to be added, using Glasgow School of Art and the Queen's Cross Church as examples. The City of Glasgow, the former Strathclyde Regional Council and the former Scottish Development Agency offered funding.

By 1990, however, although the facade was complete, the funds had dried up, stopping completion of the interior. In 1992 the Art Lover's House Trust was set up to raise funds, and in the end £3 million was spent on the construction of the building. This August it will be opened to the public.

The Music Room, for example, incorporates all the details shown in the original 1901 designs: it is elegant, lit by tall windows on one side, and with elongated female figures stencilled in the recesses. The high-backed chairs and coloured lamps on slender wires add to the simplicity and freshness of the room. The gesso panels, repoussé metal panels, stencil-

ling, lighting and carpet design, were all worked out by local specialist Scottish craftsmen and women. If this house had actually been built in the early 1900s, it would surely have made Mackintosh's name.

At Strathnairn, seven miles from Inverness, a set of Mackintosh drawings was turned into an Artist's Cottage and Studio for Peter and Maxine Tovell in 1991/92. The architect Robert Hamilton Macintyre and the contractor Paul Carter worked to create the Tovells' dream house. What is unique about the Artist's Cottage is that they live in it with their family, mixing Mackintosh detail with their own belongings. It has an intimate yet stark feel about it, with all the Mackintosh details — leaded glass, high-backed chairs and that Japanese simplicity mixed with Scottish sobriety.

As Mackintosh had designed the cottage to be serviced by chambermaids, the ratio of hearths to lavatories had to be changed to meet 1990s standards, and a staircase was put in to reach the roof terrace.

Last year the Tovells also built two identical cottages next door. These were originally designed to be the gatehouses for Auchinboothie Mains, outside Glasgow, but were never built.

The original plans for the cottage were made in 1900, the year of Mackintosh's marriage to Margaret Macdonald. It is sad to think that Mackintosh probably planned the cottage to be their home, but never had the wealth to proceed.

**HEATHER WADDELL**

The Charles Rennie Mackintosh Society (0141-946 6600), is organising short-break weekend tours of Mackintosh buildings this summer

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# Silence of a billion consciences

Jonathan Mirsky on why the Chinese cannot face their past

China's tradition prizes study; in the People's Republic actual learning is quite another thing. This explains why the 30th anniversary of the Cultural Revolution has just come and gone silently — except in millions of hearts and minds.

What Chairman Mao set going in 1966 was described by the party in 1981 as modern China's worst-ever catastrophe. But silence is more than golden in China; it is literally a life-and-death matter. Twenty-one years ago, to raise a ghostly example, the party executed Zhang Zhiqin who had raised some intolerable questions. Before she was shot, a hole was cut in her windpipe so that she could not speak, even to her executioners.

Hundreds of thousands of Chinese died in what is officially called the "disastrous decade" of 1966-76, including many top members of the leadership who became targets of Mao's passion for revenge. Many millions of ordinary people were marked, physically or emotionally, for life. There are no monuments to Zhang Zhiqin or to other victims. Only silence.

Like the Holocaust, the Cultural Revolution demands understanding. Yet research into the catastrophe is not permitted and school and university texts slink past the subject. In 1981, when Deng Xiaoping was overseeing the party's judgment on the Cultural Revolution, he ensured that draft references to Mao's *zixing* (crimes) eventually emerged as mere *cunwu* (mistakes), even if serious, and that the party itself, despite its admitted complicity with Mao, was congratulated for correcting its own mistakes.

But genuine consideration of that period, in which blood-thirsty deeds shook every aspect of Chinese society, would show that the party's habit of violence against internal critics, the mass campaigns which claimed millions of victims, and the creation and branding of "class enemies" began in the 1930s.

None of China's Communist heroes would emerge unscathed from a searching analysis. Mr Deng, a party member since 1924, helped to create a system within which "smashing" and "eliminating" enemies, usually the party's internal critics, showed true grit. Hundreds were executed as "Trotzkists" during the party's early years. In the late 1950s, at Mao's command, the party Secretary-General Deng supervised — and has always justified — the persecution of hundreds of thousands of "Rightists". In 1966, Mr Deng participated in the persecution of senior colleagues until he himself fell.

Chou En-lai, the Prime Minister, who died in 1975 and whom many Chinese regard as a near-saint, was the author of some of the Cultural Revolution's most polemical tracts and joined in condemning old comrades. Li Peng, his adopted son and now Premier, ascended — "helicoptered" — from post to powerful post.

No Gestapo or KGB was required to get large numbers of Chinese, including school-children, to torment, torture

and kill each other. Within a few years of the Maoist victory in 1949 and beginning with the extermination of landlords and other "class enemies", killing became a social good. In such conditions, silence was and remains safety. Jung Chang, the author of *Wild Swans*, who in 1966 as a child of 14 "learned to suppress my reason", describes how her father, a survivor of an early party purge of "Trotzkists", which took many lives, placed his hand over her mother's mouth during an agonising miscarriage and warned her: "Don't cry out loud. If people hear you, you will be criticised."

An elderly ex-party member told me this week that for 30 years, he and his wife never exchanged a single word or even a raised eyebrow about matters such as the sudden arrest of a friend or colleague. "No one could trust anyone," he said. "After all, either one of us could have betrayed the other."

A blood-soaked trail runs from today's leaders, who now hold every important dissident under lock and key and are directing new waves of repression in Tibet and against the Muslims of Sinkiang, through Mr Deng who ordered the Tiananmen massacre, and finally to Mao, lying in his transparent sarcophagus in Tiananmen Square. Patriotism and loyalty, therefore, are defined by obedience to what Chinese mean when they mutely point a finger up: *Shangmian* — The Above.

The Above, Liu Binyan, China's best investigative journalist, a party member since the 1940s and twice expelled, now in exile in the US, points out that the "Gang of the Old", which includes the invisible but still powerful Mr Deng, "belong to a species rare in the 20th century".

They have held power since the guerrilla period more than 60 years ago, he observes, with jurisdiction over land and people and defended by their own army. "Even Lenin and Stalin did not know the taste of having true power for so long a time."

Around such men there must be no learning, only silence. Thus Mr Liu's taboo questions for the Gang of the Old: "Did you do anything to prevent Mao from making wrong decisions? Are you in part responsible for the Cultural Revolution?"

Enforcing silence cannot work forever. A cauldron of violence heaves just below China's surface, where there are potential armies of men and women experienced in organised uprising and rebellion. Millions were involved in Red Guard faction-fighting during the Cultural Revolution, when each side claimed to represent the Maoist cause. All that vanished, leaving disillusionment but also a knowledge of weapons.

Further expertise in defying authority was acquired all over China during May and June, 1989 — another anniversary which cannot be marked. I recall a poster in Tiananmen: "One million criminals in the party; one million choppers in the hands of the people."

The honour comes from the American Foreign Service Association, a diplomats' trade union. The AFSA clearly sympathises with the vein-bursting brought on at our own Foreign Office when Adams did finally receive his visa — and a hero's welcome from his Irish American clique to boot.

The citation praises the "integrity", "courage" and "constructive dissent" of Treacy and Callahan, who stood by their rulebook under intense political pressure. Mrs Smith, whose sympathies are strongly pro-republican, drew strength from her family's intimacy with Bill Clinton. The President is prone to coming out in shambles

Peter Jones aims a custard pie at practitioners of cultural studies and their pretentious gibberish

An American academic, the physicist Alan Sokal of New York University, has finally called the bluff of the jargon-ridden world of "cultural studies". Tiring of their nonsense, he stitched together an article from the silliest quotations he could find, entitled it "Transgressing the Boundaries: Towards a Transformative Hermeneutics of Quantum Gravity", and submitted it for publication. The editors of the academic journal *Social Text* duly obliged.

Before we mock, however, let us be clear what we are talking about. Every discipline has its specialist vocabulary. We need terms such as "chromosome" and "dactylo-epitrite". They are shorthand for complex phenomena. Jargon, however, is shorthand for simple phenomena. Its purpose is to obscure — and obscurity seems to be the particular vice of the humanities and social sciences.

Those mainly responsible are 20th-century French linguistic philosophers. They argued that language could never reflect or describe external reality, only create it. Reality was therefore personal to the creator, ie, the speaker (and especially, for some reason, the writer). It could not be shared by anyone else.

Academics who swallowed this

obvious nonsense were therefore obliged to jettison the idea that they were looking for truth. Their job now was to reveal that there was no such thing as truth. But a new approach required a new vocabulary. Since language was regarded as slippery and indeterminate, that vocabulary had to be slippery and indeterminate too. It had to reject the very idea of clarity, let alone reason, logic or evidence. These, after all, demonstrated that things were or were not the case — anathema to the new way of thinking.

This explains how Sokal's article was accepted. It spoke the lingo. That was all that counted. Evaluating the argument was of no interest.

Once you know the jargon, however, it is easy to compose in it — and the joy of it is, what you are trying to say does not matter. Indeed, quite the reverse. It helps if you have nothing

to say. Then you can expend all your effort on saying it.

Here, then, is the *Times* instant, self-adjusting guide to Getting Academic Articles Guaranteed Automatic Acceptance (GAA-GAA for short). These are the key words:

**Nouns:** discourse, negotiation, engagement, contestation, reading, positioning, appropriation, process, indeterminacy, dialogue, closure, boundaries, terrain, parameters, complexity, disjunction, articulation, negotiation, voice, space, ambiguity, paradox, mode, interrogation, utterance, sign, symbol, signifier.

**Verbs:** confront, encode, contest, challenge, essentialise, transgress, articulate, function, instantiate, locate, enact, occlude, constitute, inscribe.

**Adjectives** (and their associated adverbs): allusive, antagonistic, dialectic, enigmatic, ironic, reflexive,

hermeneutic, shifting, complex, discursive, ambiguous, elusive, problematic.

Note: for added scholarly piquancy, add "self-", "multi-", "trans-" or "re-" to any of these at random. "Self-reflexive", however that differs from "reflexive", is especially popular.

Now, pick any of the above words in an order which will ensure a grammatical utterance and add prepositions and conjunctions to taste.

Then select a subject (Shakespeare, let us say, or Sophocles, or Kevin Keegan or — well, anyone or anything, really). Insert subject in appropriate spot. Bingo.

The elusive indeterminacy of Shakespeare's ambiguous and problematic self-positioning instantiates while it occludes the enigmatic renegotiation of multi-hegemonic self-interrogation within the shifting

parameters of its own trans-discursive space. "Terrific stuff! You think I made it up? Then try this, on post-colonial literature."

"The disjunctive present of utterance allows the articulation of subaltern agency to emerge as relocation and reinscription. In the seizure of the sign, there is neither dialectical sublation nor the empty signifier: there is a contestation of given symbols of authority that shifts the terrain of antagonism. This is hybridity as a contesting, antagonistic agency functioning in the time lag of sign/symbol."

What can one do about all this? The Frenchman Noel Godin (alias Georges le Gloupier) has one useful approach. *Entarteur extraordinaire*, he throws custard pies at practitioners. He has hit the philosopher Bernard-Henri Levy five times.

My colleague David West makes a more modest proposal — the formation of a Whistle Club. Members carry an Acme "Thunderer" and let it rip on hearing more than three of the forbidden words in any sentence.

It is academics who have fallen for this drive. It is academics who must root it out.

The author helps to run Friends of Classics and lectures in Classics at Newcastle University.

# Academic jargon: how to publish it

## The minister and the judge

Lord Chief Justice Taylor challenges Michael Howard on sentencing — but who has justice on his side?

The matter is so great we hardly know where to begin. Lord Taylor of Gossforth, Lord Chief Justice of England, sick but of towering authority, lays a charge against Michael Howard, Home Secretary and pretender to his party's crown. The charge is of plotting to subvert British justice. To each, the other is an anathema. Both claim that public order is at stake. Both cannot be right. Who is guilty?

Alexandre Dumas offered clear advice in such investigations. He said "cherchez la femme" — to the delight of French detectives ever since. Watergate's Deep Throat suggested a different tack. "Follow the money," he told his sleuths. But I see neither women nor money in this case. It is all rather dry. So I call in aid my Third Law of Human Dynamics. This states that "after sex and cash, nothing so rouses a man to unreason as an attack on his profession".

The Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor, has been outraged by the Government's White Paper on sentencing. This fixes terms of imprisonment for certain repeat offences, thus curtailing judges' freedom, and brings other offences under the Home Secretary's jurisdiction, doing likewise. The result, his lordship told the House of Lords on Thursday, was nothing short of a "denial of justice". Sentencing was a craft not a computation, a rite to which only judges were privy. Each criminal needed to be judged on his merits and not be left vulnerable to some crude tariff or, worse, to passing political machismo.

I noted a ghost rising over Parliament as Lord Taylor spoke. It was of his predecessor Lord Lane, who waged an equally ferocious campaign against the Cabinet in 1989 for diluting — he would say polluting — the Bar by granting solicitors rights of audience in court. The proposal, he said, was "one of the most sinister documents ever to emanate from government".

A previous Lord Chancellor, Lord Havers, reacted likewise. He declared on television that, for the first time, a party of which he had been a member was doing something so immoral that he had to speak out. So perhaps Lord Taylor is just fighting another barristers' turf war. Was he on Thursday singing the same tune as Lord Lane, to different words?

Now let us apply the Third Law to

Mr Howard. His profession is that of politician. Politicians in this Government are control freaks. Each day they enter their offices and ask their officials to give them new powers and a photo-opportunity to match. Mr Howard is a Home Office legend in this respect. In curbing police authorities, supervising the Prison Service and expanding his right to fix sentences, Mr Howard is the arch-advocate of the doctrine that big government knows best.

His political agenda at present is to be seen as tough on crime. Why let judges get any credit for this when the constitution allows a politician to do so? Not only does Mr Howard want to fix statutory minimums for repeat burglaries, he is proposing "automatic life" for repeat violent and sexual offenders. We all know life does not mean life. It merely refers to a decision on a criminal's term of imprisonment from a judge to the Home Office. This is a straight shift of power away from the judiciary, the Parole Board and prison governors to Home Office ministers and officials. Mr Howard says that "Parliament will decide", but nobody is fooled by that. Parliament is a fig-leaf. Parliament means the Home Secretary.

So there are our antagonists. "High-stomach'd are they both and full of ire." We have stripped their dispute to base interests. We must apply the test of reason. On principle, it is hard for a democrat to disagree with Mr Howard. The public is worried at the waywardness of some much-publicised court decisions. It is shocked when a dangerous criminal is let out and reoffends. A politician must hear that worry. It is not necessarily capitulating to mob rule to seek tougher or more consistent sentences.

But Lord Taylor does not quarrel with this. What he does dispute is that the proposed changes will protect the public. Quite the reverse, he feels they are a menace.

Automatic life for repeat serious crimes, says Lord Taylor, and an automatic three years for repeat burglars is insane. All evidence (notably from America) indicates that in these cases guilty pleas will plummet, possibly from 80 per cent to 20 per cent. This will clog the courts and lead to hundreds of serious criminals going free, either for lack of prosecution evidence or because juries will believe false not-guilty pleas.



The Home Secretary and the retiring Lord Chief Justice: the executive versus the judiciary

Just five years ago, a Home Office White Paper agreed. It stated categorically: "A system of minimum or mandatory sentences for certain offences... would result in more acquittals by juries with more guilty men and women going free unjustly as a result." The Home Office is standing on its head.

Now there is hard evidence that recidivists have been treated leniently, the central argument for instituting this change. The White Paper figures claiming leniency appear to have been carefully taken from a period when judges were specifically banned from considering previous offences in fixing sentences. Mr Howard himself sat in the Cabinet that issued this order, in the ill-fated 1991 Criminal Justice Act. He presumably agreed then that judges should not consider previous convictions in fixing jail terms. It was declared to be a more certain deterrent than punishment should fit the crime, not the criminal. Again the Home Office is standing on its head.

As Lord Taylor implies, ministers are now so frantic to appear to be doing something that any old argument will do to validate an increase in power. Despite his detractors, I do not believe Mr Howard loathes judges, probation officers, prison governors or even criminologists. He is, rather, suffering from a bad attack of "ministerialitis" — a fierce faith in the omniscience of politicians and officials to do other people's jobs better than they can. Mr Howard has the same nationalising zeal as a Morrison or a Bevan in 1945. He can summon the justice system and tell it to meet public concern along lines agreed between them all. He truly believes, against all recent history, that Whitehall officials can devise a sentencing regime better than any panel of judges.

This is the nub. A Home Secretary need fear no supreme court, except the European Court of Justice (before which Mr Howard must qualify as a serial offender). Since there is no separation of powers in Britain, democrats must search high and low for ways of bringing executive excess

to account. In most civilised countries, executive justice is neither reliable nor respectable. As we have seen with mandatory sentencing and unit fines, it fluctuates wildly with the fortunes and personalities of politicians. The recent Home Office handling of the Bulger and Hindley cases was blatantly political. Such justice is worthy of a banana republic.

Given the ineffectiveness of Parliament, accountability falls to the media (dare I say it) and the courts. Until his sad retirement, the judiciary has been present in the robust person of Lord Chief Justice Taylor. On Thursday he may have been singing his profession's tune. But the tune will do for the purpose. The Home Secretary wants to set himself up as a judge above judges. He can do this constitutionally, as he can do almost anything he likes. But if the constitution cannot stop him, argument must try. On my reading, he has not been convincing that the Government's extraordinary about-turn on sentencing will reduce crime. Lord Taylor has convinced me that it will make crime worse.

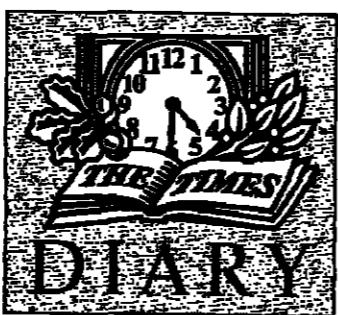
## Dublin dissent

TWO Dublin-based American diplomats who resisted pressure from their Ambassador, Jean Kennedy Smith, sister of JFK, to issue a visa to Gerry Adams, are to be honoured. In 1994 Mrs Smith, an aggressive sort and inheritor of the Kennedy shovel-jaw, argued for the Sinn Féin leader to be given a visa

to travel to America. John Treacy, then public affairs officer, and James Callahan, then consul general, stood up to her. They insisted that Adams should receive no special treatment and pressed on her the damage this would do to Anglo-American relations. For this, they were excluded from embassy parties and received poor evaluations from their boss.

The honour comes from the American Foreign Service Association, a diplomats' trade union. The AFSA clearly sympathises with the vein-bursting brought on at our own Foreign Office when Adams did finally receive his visa — and a hero's welcome from his Irish American clique to boot.

The citation praises the "integrity", "courage" and "constructive dissent" of Treacy and Callahan, who stood by their rulebook under intense political pressure. Mrs Smith, whose sympathies are strongly pro-republican, drew strength from her family's intimacy with Bill Clinton. The President is prone to coming out in shambles



adaptation of Nick Hornby's book *Fever Pitch*. He is helping to fund the film, which will star Colin Firth as a besotted Arsenal fan. "I prefer to call my role a cameo rather than minor," he says. "I am already working on my screen presence."

### Brontë's back

SOLD: the publishing rights to *Sarah Miles*, the novel being attributed to Charlotte Brontë. Giles Gordon, the silky literary agent from Curtis Brown, has flogged off the world English rights to the book to Harry Evans, the head of Random House. "A substantial sum" was all he would say of the money involved. This may prove ominous for Magnus Linklater, journalist and client of Gordon. Earlier this week, he wrote in this newspaper of his doubts about the novel's authorship, vowing to eat his column "newsprint and all" if proved wrong.

### Woy oh Woy

THIS evening sees the inaugural dinner of the Roy Jenkins Appreciation Society. Founded and presid-

ed over by Hywel Williams, the Q to John Redwood's Bond, the society offers a daredevil forum for exchanges of Jenkins stories. My report earlier this week of Jenkins's womanising and his affair with the stunning Princess Lee Radziwill, sister of Jackie Onassis, during the 1960s will only have burnished his reputation. A late but enthusiastic recruit to the society is Alastair Goodlad, the Chief Whip. "He has told me that he would be very



"Now just leave me until the holiday weekend's over"

pleased to write an essay in the *Jenkinsian* style," says Williams. "Even better, he promises to read it aloud in his best Jenkinsian manner."

● CONSERVATIVE whips had reason to worry the other night as Alastair Campbell, Tory Blair's door-slaming press spokesman, went into a huddle with Antony Bevis of *The Observer*. Drinking in Anne's Bar in the Commons, they were listening closely to the third member of the group, Tristan Garel-Jones, fierce Tory loyalist and MP for Watford. The last time Campbell and Bevis pow-wowed like this was just before last year's Conservative conference. Then, the Tory in their group was Alan Howarth, MP for Stratford, whose defection to Labour was reported in *The Observer* a few days later.

### Hot dog

CLOUDS of flea powder and the dull tinkle of dog chains have been heard across the West End recently as the canine press delivers its verdict on Sylvia, a comedy in which Zoë Wanamaker plays a stray dog in Manhattan. *Pet Dogs*. Dogs



Good dog: Zoë Wanamaker

Monthly and *All About Dogs* made up part of the quorum at this week's first night. Though some complained the play was "too American", Wanamaker was just Bonio. "She was very good," says Denise Lessman from *Dogs Today*. "When she came back from the hairdresser all fluffy and cute, she was just like my dog when he comes back from the hairdresser and prances around. If you are a dog fancier, see it fast."

P-H-S



## JUDGING JUDGES

Bingham and Woolf should be welcomed, but act warily

In any democracy there will always be a measure of tension between the judiciary and the executive. But the development of the current disagreement between judges and ministers on sentencing policy has allowed a particularly deep fissure to open up. Against that background the new Lord Chief Justice, Sir Thomas Bingham, and his successor as Master of Rolls, Lord Woolf, face a delicate task.

Both are men of the highest ability and integrity, worthy successors to the retiring Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor of Gossforth, whose character and wisdom throughout his long career have commanded admiration. Both are also, like Lord Taylor, liberal-minded lawyers. With Tory and Labour politicians reflecting a widespread, and considered, conservative public mood on justice, there may be further friction ahead.

In both criminal and civil law there will be areas of potential contention. The Home Secretary's proposals to introduce mandatory minimum sentences for domestic burglars and mandatory life sentences for persistent violent and sexual offenders address widespread public concern about crime. But they faced a fusillade of criticism from senior judges, most notably from Lord Taylor, who led the assault in the House of Lords this week.

Sir Thomas has been careful not to praise, or damn, the Home Secretary's proposals but he has covered a ministerial flank. He has spoken up in favour of Mr Howard's constitutional right to bring his proposals forward, commenting: "As Parliament can prescribe a maximum penalty without infringing the constitutional independence of the judges so it can prescribe a minimum." By his restrained intervention, avoiding provocative statements such as those of Lord Justice Rose — who argued that the changes would "increase the murder rate" — Sir Thomas has shown an appropriate sensitivity for a new Lord Chief Justice.

Although he has been cautious on sentencing, supportive of the Attorney-General after the Scott report and enthusiastic in support of Lord Mackay of Clashfern's

attempts to rid the Bar of its restrictive practices, Sir Thomas is no poodle of politicians. An advocate of a Bill of Rights and critic of the capacity of common law to protect the individual, he has argued that those who see Parliament as "a reliable guardian of human rights" are "guilty of wishful thinking". Sir Thomas has also hinted that if Parliament will not protect privacy then judges will step into the breach.

Lord Woolf, the new Master of the Rolls, is, if anything, even more inclined to see power pass to judges than Sir Thomas. For the past two years he has been engaged in a review of the civil justice system over which he will now preside. Understandably anxious to make access to justice easier, Lord Woolf has argued for judges to be proactive "case managers". He has taken political positions. In the past he has suggested careless car-owners might be fined for encouraging theft and criticised the Government's prison policy as "short-sighted and irresponsible". Any future government may expect Lord Woolf to be a judicial activist, energetic in his use of the law to check the executive and extend "rights".

The arguments advanced by Sir Thomas and Lord Woolf enjoy wide support among senior colleagues on the Bench and are increasingly rarely articulated in the Commons. Given the growth in power and scope of the executive throughout the century, and given the increasing weight of legislation, much of it conceived in haste, it is understandable — and in some cases desirable — that judges should seek to assert themselves. But there are dangers.

It is to the credit of a Conservative Government that two men of such liberal temper should be appointed to the two most senior judicial posts. Yet if judges themselves choose to become more political, then they may undermine the foundation of their own independence. Parliamentary sovereignty is the basis of Britain's pragmatic but resilient constitution. A difficult balance will need to be struck but Sir Thomas and Lord Woolf are pre-eminently qualified by intellect and experience to play their part.

## SPIRIT OF LIFE

'A sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind' (Acts ii, 2)

Of all the inadequate human analogies in which we speak of God's self-communication, word and breath are among the most significant. "Words are not things," wrote Coleridge. "they are the living educts of the imagination," the bearers of meaning through image and symbol. In the ancient Genesis creation story the living word of God is powerful and creative, yet that same story begins with a mighty wind sweeping over the water of chaos, bringing form and order. And in the creation of Adam it is God breathing into man the breath of life that makes him a living being. Words spoken are carried on breath, and without breath there is no life and no communication.

Pentecost — Whit Sunday — is the third great festival of the Christian year. As a Jewish festival it was the feast of the first fruits of the harvest; and in the Acts of the Apostles St Luke sees the explosion of the fire from Heaven and the rushing mighty wind as the birth of the Church, the first ingathering of the new community indwelt and empowered by the creator Spirit.

The word "spirit" is rooted in the sense of the ordering and transforming breath of life of the Creator. The people of ancient Israel saw the dancing whirlwinds wheeling across the desert, seeming to have a mysterious power of their own, catching dust and debris into their spiralling life. They spoke of the *ruach* or mighty wind of God, powerful, unseen, and life-giving, like our human breathing.

In St John's Gospel this new life of God is given to the Christian community on the evening of Easter Day, when Jesus breathes on His disciples with the words "Receive Holy Spirit — receive the breath of living holiness": an act of new creation as powerful

as God breathing life into Adam. In Luke's account the wind from Heaven and the tongues of flame, of purifying fire, enable new language, new communication, a new community, so reversing the divided babble of languages of the Tower of Babel.

Spirit and letter, inspiration and institution, order and energy, are often held in tension with each other. Yet in speaking of God's own being, Christians have spoken of God as Word and Spirit. The history of the Church is marked by charismatic revivals, when claims to special inspiration, prophetic gifts and new life exist in tension with institution and order. The 12th-century abbot, Joachim of Fiore, looked for a time when the institutional Church of Peter would be replaced by the spiritual Church of John. In the 18th century Joseph Butler, the philosopher Bishop of Bristol, rebuked John Wesley in well-known words: "Sir, pretending to extraordinary revelations and the gifts of the Holy Spirit, is a horrid thing, a very horrid thing." Yet the order, ministry and sacraments of the Church are only by and in the power of the Spirit and the Spirit's gift is the enabling of communion, the deep belonging-togetherness which is the root of all human community and communication.

It is the transforming gift of the Spirit which creates the true human community for which we long, and the fruits of the Spirit, of this new life of God, are "love, joy, peace, patience, long-suffering and gentleness". Without these the human community cannot exist and no society can endure. Pentecost is the celebration of the divine grace from which these gifts spring, and a reminder that the Church of God, for all its failings, is a divine society and not simply a human institution.

## MANNERS FROM HEAVEN

Our rough age needs to polish its behaviour

"Manners are not idle," wrote Alfred Lord Tennyson, "but the fruit of loyal nature and of noble mind." Yet society has slithered since those more sedate times when structures stood as stiffly as the footman at the door, and nannies forged standards in the smithy of the soul.

This week the Social Affairs Unit published a book of essays — *Gentility Recalled* — which lament the arrival of our more churlish age. There has been a decline in civility, restraint and order in Britain, which threatens our society perhaps even more than crime. In a loutish modern culture which trembles with road rage, where values are defaced by vandalism and decorum is drowned out by the hooligan's roars, our children are learning the brutishness of an uncivilised world. "Respect" nowadays is just slang for a craven submission to the leader of the pack.

Manners should not be confused with etiquette, with the social snobbery which mistakes sophistication for moral worth. It matters little how you eat your artichoke, or if you crook your finger as you sip your tea. Etiquette — as complicated as a cotillion — is a form of exclusion. Manners are simply a way of including people. They are the oil which lubricates the mechanism of society.

It was an act of grace and diplomacy when Queen Victoria followed in the footsteps of a guest's *faux pas* and drank from her finger bowl to set him at ease.

Much of the blame for the erosion of our standards is laid at the door of the Sixties when the postwar baby boom entered puberty *en masse*. Adolescence is not renowned for its social grace. Self-expression shouldered consideration aside. A glimpse of stocking need not be shocking, but aggressive feminism has enfeebled traditional respect for women. With the subsequent flourishing of a technological age the young learnt new skills which superseded those of the past. The elderly became obsolete. And this ethos split over into the moral domain. Now age shrinks by on the sidewalk of life.

But manners maketh man. They lead in society to a predictability of response upon which the foundations of order are built. They are moulded within the family structure. They cannot simply be explained to children, but must be taught by example. It is only when manners become a more conscious concern that man will become again more manly. We should reach for a society where manners are as common as muck.

## UK action on beef ban questioned

From Dr Anthony Glee

Sir, Before this country rushes headlong into a pointless confrontation with its fellow European nations, ought the Prime Minister not to reflect one last time both on the causes of the present crisis and the only way it can be resolved?

The Times reported on March 21 a new and threatening discovery in respect of a relationship between BSE and CJD. Dr John Paterson, chairman of the committee advising the Government on BSE, said he had never seen the variant before, and was quoted as saying: "It is totally unpredictable, but at one extreme there is a risk of an epidemic."

Dr Robert Will, head of the CJD surveillance centre, stated: "I believe this is a new phenomenon. There is reason for major concern." The trusted Times doctor reminded us that CJD was highly infectious, adding: "I shall in future avoid all beef, whether roasted or minced, until scientists can be truly reassuring."

Finally, your Science Editor spoke of "smoking gun" evidence that pointed to a link between BSE and CJD. He noted that the incubation period of the disease could last for decades, concluding: "If the new form of CJD follows this pattern, it will be almost the middle of the next century before we can be sure that no more new cases will emerge."

No wonder people are worried. At the heart of the beef crisis lies a fundamental lack of faith in the declarations of politicians. Four fifths of our beef exports go to other EU nations. EU consumers must be won over. This can be done only by telling the truth — and from within the European Union — respecting the justified fears of the consumer, whether German, Dutch or British. To paralyse the work of the Union will do nothing to whet their appetite for beef.

Yours faithfully,  
ANTHONY GLEE,  
10 Hermes Road, Oxford.  
May 24.

From Mr David Gladstone

Sir, How pleasing to find myself, for once, in full agreement with William Rees-Mogg ("Monty Python politics", May 23). And how dispiriting to find that this once great country is preparing to go to war under a banner inscribed TGS (tallow, gelatine and semen).

Has the Conservative Party, unlike our EU partners, learnt nothing from the history of the past 150 years? Are we for ever to be ruled by the ghosts of Lord Palmerston and jingoism as we march to the xenophobic drum-beat of Mrs Teresa Gorman and Mr John Townsend? Have we lost all our equally traditional sense of the ridiculous? My worst fear is that Mr Major's posturing may appear to pay off, that a lifting of the ban on TGS, which was anyway on the cards, will be claimed as a triumph of gunboat diplomacy and that the Germans and others will overlook the insults being heaped on them and try to help us. There could be nothing more shameful than to be forgiven by the grown-ups across the Channel for our childish tantrums.

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID GLADSTONE,  
1 Mountford Terrace, NI.  
May 23.

From Mr John Murray

Sir, I am appalled by your leader, "Bully for beef" (May 23), praising the Prime Minister for, in your view, enhancing his political prospects at home by playing fast and loose with Britain's interests in the EU. Lord Rees-Mogg, in the same issue, seems to me to be much closer to the mark when he describes the declaration of non-cooperation in Brussels as "a foreign policy scripted by Monty Python".

Let us forget the BSE problem arose here and must be resolved here. To use it as an issue with which to beat other member states, many of whom are suffering economic consequences quite as bad or worse than our own, is profoundly misguided.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN MURRAY,  
9 Cambridge Street,  
Tunbridge Wells, Kent.  
May 23.

From Mr Barry H. Cowell

Sir, For the Government to take "strike action" by withdrawing co-operation with the EU is to go against all its principles in negotiations, as it has so often maintained about trade unions.

I believe the EU should refuse to discuss the beef crisis until all threats are withdrawn.

Yours faithfully,  
BARRY H. COWELL,  
132 West Street, Deal, Kent.  
May 24.

From Mr Michael J. Gordon

Sir, I suspect that Euro-realists now constitute a clear majority in the Cabinet, in the 1922 Committee and almost certainly in the country.

Surely this is now the time for Mr Major to call an early election with a manifesto committed to the renegotiation of our membership of the European Union.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL J. GORDON,  
Rissington Mill,  
Little Rissington, Gloucestershire.  
May 23.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

## Bearing cost of church archaeology

From the Secretary of the  
Cathedrals and Churches Advisory  
Committee, English Heritage,  
and others

Sir, Your correspondence (May 2, 6, 16) about the cost of archaeological work on churches raises a number of issues.

It is now widely accepted that whenever possible the historic fabric, whether of churches or secular buildings, should be preserved. Archaeological evidence of the development of our civilisation often lies in and around standing buildings — and in the case of churches, witnesses to past worshippers and the development of the faith, which are surely a valid concern of modern congregations also.

But such evidence is fragile, easily damaged and, once damaged, irreplaceable. The worshipping community owes it to posterity to care for what survives. Where it is not appropriate to preserve, archaeological remains and deposits should be carefully investigated and recorded before destruction by new work.

Archaeology needs to be seen as an integral part of any development around a historic site. Indeed, if it is adequately considered in the first instance, the costs are likely to be less. Government and Church of England guidelines equally emphasise that archaeological issues should be taken into account at an early stage, in the later case with the help wherever possible of the diocesan archaeological adviser. The Church of England's desire to operate a statutory system that is

the equal of secular planning authorities" is fulfilled by the faculty conditions, which require watching briefs or archaeological work.

We are well aware that many parishes, like Charlbury in Oxfordshire (letter, May 2), are hard pressed financially, and we sympathise with the many demands with which they have to deal. English Heritage's resources are limited, but it can, in certain circumstances, help financially and the Heritage Lottery Fund may also be able to help.

Clearly, though, the situation is unsatisfactory for parishes, archaeologists and indeed the future study of our rich ecclesiastical heritage, and the funding of archaeology in churches in use is currently being discussed by national bodies such as ourselves.

Charlbury church is probably an Anglo-Saxon minster church, possibly originating in the 7th century. The archaeological costs to the parishioners were less than 1 per cent of the total, which is surely not too high a price to pay for greater knowledge of a building of such historic significance.

Yours etc,  
PAULA GRIFFITHS,  
Secretary, Cathedrals and Churches  
Advisory Committee, English Heritage.  
THOMAS COCKE  
(Secretary,  
Council for the Care of Churches),  
RICHARD MORRIS  
(Director, Council for British Archaeology),  
English Heritage,  
23 Savile Row, W1.  
May 17.

## Space programme

From the Chairman of the United  
Kingdom Industrial Space  
Committee

Sir, Your article on Britain's space programme (Interface, May 15) correctly identified Britain's failure to participate in the Ariane 5 development as a missed commercial opportunity. However, both the quoted phrases which you highlight need to be challenged.

To claim that "the space industry in Britain is a myth" is absurd. For instance, the recent launch of the Inmarsat-3 spacecraft carried into orbit the electronics, designed and manufactured in the UK, which will provide communications with aircraft and other mobile users throughout the world, and most of the world's civilian aircraft use UK equipment to provide inflight communications via satellites

such as Inmarsat-3.

Equally absurd is the claim that "there is a lack of vision in Britain". The European Space Agency recently solicited ideas from throughout Europe as to the science missions it should undertake next. UK scientists provided more acceptable ideas than their counterparts in any other European country.

Whether for broadcasting, communications, remote sensing or weather forecasting, the UK is the leading operational user of space facilities and services in Europe. Let's not sell ourselves short.

Yours faithfully,  
P. NORRIS (Chairman),  
United Kingdom Industrial  
Space Committee,  
c/o Logica UK Ltd,  
74 Portsmouth Road,  
Cobham, Surrey.  
May 20.

## Road rage

From Dr Rajat Roy

Sir, I have identified three reasons, in descending order, why I am often the victim of road rage (report, May 20): I obey the Highway Code, especially speed limits; I offer no aggression when confronted; and I am of an ethnic minority.

Is it not true mobile road patrols or wardens, distinct from the police patrols, were established to deal with this menace and with other constant infringements of the Highway Code?

Yours sincerely,  
R. N. ROY,  
7 Menzies Drive, Finty, Central.  
May 22.

## RNLI tribute

From Mrs Dorothy A. Branco

Sir, Yesterday in London I attended the annual ceremony at which Royal National Lifeboat Institution awards for gallantry are presented to members of lifeboat crews (Court Circular, May 17).

After receiving their awards from the Duke of Kent, four young men, neat in their dark uniforms, sat quietly together on the platform while 2,000 people rose to their feet, as one, to applaud seamanship, skill and bravery which had been described to us as "nothing short of outstanding".

A total of eight lives had been saved by these men, at risk to their own lives and for no financial reward or pay-

ment, their sole motivation being their anxiety to be of assistance to their fellow human beings.

The RNLI is known to most of us, but perhaps at times we take this splendid body of individuals for granted. At a time when our daily lives are burdened with news of murder, rape, terrorism, greed and self-interest it is most comforting to realise that, while such occasions as yesterday remain possible, we may preserve the hope that Man, for all his grievous shortcomings, will never entirely disgrace himself.

Yours faithfully,  
DOROTHY A. BRANCO,  
11 Springfield Court,  
Lynton Road, W3.  
May 17.

I remain calmly yours,  
BRENDA J. CHOAK,  
Moorlea House,  
Golf Links Road,  
Yehverton, Devon.  
May 22.

## Directory changes

From Mr Stewart G. Birt

Sir, New editions of the telephone directory for the North East of Scotland were issued last week. The areas of coverage have been significantly changed.

If you are located in rural areas of Aberdeenshire your directory no longer covers residential numbers in Aberdeen city and vice versa. This will inevitably lead to the increased cost of having to use directory inquiries for numbers which are actually local.

The reason given by BT was to reduce the size of the directory for our convenience, but the previous edition was already small because of the area's relatively low population.

Is this BT's latest way of increasing charges to its customers?

Yours faithfully,  
STEWART G. BIRT,  
Beachwood, Woodhead,  
Fyvie, nr Turfiff,  
Aberdeenshire.  
May 23.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.

## Somerset House

From Mr J. D. Rimington

Sir, Is it not refreshing that Somerset House still serves the useful purposes for which it was designed (article, May 11; letters, May 16), and preferable that it should continue to do so rather than be turned into some kind of museum — or, heaven help us, a mayoral palace?

I myself joined the Civil Service nearly forty years ago with a view that the profession of government is one of the most necessary and honourable of occupations, and can see no reason why it should not be honourably housed in this as in every previous era.

On the reasoning advanced by your chorus of correspondents, should we not turn the lawyers out of the Temple (which they originally usurped) to make a promenade, or the clergy and their choir-stalls out of St Paul's, the better to admire Wren's spatial dexterity?

Yours sincerely,  
JOHN RIMINGTON,  
9 Highbury Hill, N5.  
May 16.

Weekend Money letters, page 35

## Rights of Kalahari Bushman people

From Dr Virginia Luling

Sir, How to help indigenous peoples? Bruce Anderson's remarkable article, "We succour Bushmen at their peril" (May 18), in contrast with your reasonable and sympathetic editorial on the same day, proposes that the Bushmen of Botswana must be forcibly kept in ignorance of the resources and comforts of the "modern world" — on the assumption that once this dangerous knowledge leaks out (or in) they will all drop their bows and arrows and go rushing to town.

It may be that Mr Anderson's tongue was in his cheek, but his depiction of the splendours and miseries of Bushman life is 30 years or more out of date.

Most of the Bushman people in the central Kalahari today have a mixed production system: they do some limited foraging; they also raise livestock (mainly goats) and plant various crops. The community settlement of Xade in the Central Kalahari Game Reserve — which the authorities want to move outside it — has a school, a health post, a general store and a tribal police office.

The Central Kalahari has been serviced regularly by the district council from Ghanzi and the Botswana Government's Remote Area Development Program since the 1970s, and water has been available since 1962.

Many of the men in the reserve have worked either in the mines or in the farms and towns of Botswana and South Africa. Some of them have been in the military and work for government. For good or ill, they are in touch with our world. An anthropologist friend tells me how last year an elderly Bushman, while busy putting poison on an arrow, asked him whether he believed O. J. Simpson was guilty. Identity is not the same thing as isolation. The people of the central Kalahari want such things as water and health care, but they want them where they live; and there is no serious reason why they should not have them.

What they, and the West Papuans and the Aboriginal people of Australia and the rest, need and have a right to is not to remain in some impossible pristine state, but to live in their own country and to have as much say in their own destiny as the rest of us.

Yours sincerely,  
VIRGINIA LULING  
(Africa Campaigns Officer),  
Survival,  
11-15 Emerald Street, WCI.  
May 23.

## Paedophile jailing

From Major C. V. Wright (ret)

Sir, In today's Times you report that Mr Justice Curtis congratulated an acting detective inspector for not physically attacking a suspect he was questioning.

Can this really be true?

Yours faithfully,  
C. V. WRIGHT,  
South View, Hunton,  
Bedale, North Yorkshire.  
May 17.

## Dear little B-cup

From Mr Neil Wright

Sir, Like Miss Marie Helvin (Diary, May 17), I too can vouch for the efficacy of rugby socks as an improvement to the bustline.

As a boy soprano in the chorus of a production of HMS Pinafore at a single-sex school in the 1950s I and my companions were advised by our lady choreographer that such an addition to our costume would be a welcome aid to the illusion of our being "sisters, cousins and aunts".

However I doubt whether Miss Helvin could lay claim, as we could, to having actually played rugby in them the same day, before using them for their secondary purpose.

Yours faithfully,  
NEIL WRIGHT,  
Bakers, 14 Adderley Street,  
Uppingham, Rutland, Leicestershire.  
May 17.

From Mr J. B. H. Byfield

Sir, Those of us with strong nautical connections may share my curiosity that former model Marie Helvin uses "red and green socks" to provide additional mannish support. May we be assured that Ms Helvin uses these aids correctly — ie, red for port and green for starboard?

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN BYFIELD,  
2 Willow Farm,  
Yatminster, Sherborne, Dorset.  
May 17.

## Fortunes of war

From Mr Bernard Kaukas

Sir, So Napoleon lost the Battle of Waterloo because his artillery got bogged down in mud caused by a volcano explosion in Indonesia, and failed to arrive in time (report, later editions, May 21).

Well, hard cheese; or as the French have it, *c'est la guerre*. It was also jolly unsporting of Wellington to have taken advantage by occupying the high ground.

Yours faithfully,  
BERNARD KAUKAS,  
13 Lynwood Road, Ealing, W5.  
May 21.



هكذا في الاول

OBITUARIES

DOROTHY HYSON

Dorothy Hyson, film and stage star, and widow of the Shakespearean actor Sir Anthony Quayle, died on May 23 aged 81. She was born on December 24, 1914.

ON THEIR first introduction in 1936, Anthony Quayle considered Dorothy Hyson "the most beautiful creature I had ever seen". That first reaction, which was to develop into one of the great love stories of the modern British theatre, had been internationally endorsed three years earlier, when Cary Grant hailed her as "the world's new sweetheart". Hyson's perfect heart-shaped face, vivid cornflower-blue eyes and translucent halo of blonde hair also inspired Richard Rodgers and Lorenz Hart to write the song *The Most Beautiful Girl in the World*. For a time, Hyson's looks confined her to ingenue territory, but in the title role of John Gielgud's definitive 1945 production of *Lady Windermere's Fan*, she ultimately became the quintessential Wildean heroine.

Born in Chicago, Dorothy Wardell Heisen was the only child of the American-born beauty and musical comedy star Dorothy Dickson and her husband, Carl Constantine Heisen, who changed his name to Carl Hyson and became America's foremost exponent of ballroom dancing. She made her acting debut aged three at Paramount's *Long Island Studios* in the 1917 silent film *Money Mad* (later known as *Paying the Piper*) as the child of a headstrong heiress, played by her mother. Historic ability was evident even at that age. The film's director, George Fitzmaurice, found that he could get her to sob and cry on cue merely by speaking to her severely.

In 1921 her parents settled in Britain, where they subsequently separated and divorced. Dorothy Dickson's gigantic success in the title role of Jerome Kern's musical, *Sally*, made her London's highest-paid star, and "Little Dot", as she was known in the family, was sent to a preparatory boarding school, Godstone at High Wycombe, and then as a boarder to the girls' public school Westonbirt in Gloucestershire.

She made two appearances on the London stage as a child: as Patty in J.M. Barrie's *Quality Street* at the Savoy Theatre in 1927, and at the Strand in 1928 as Ethel Monticue in *Daisy Ashford's The Young Visitors*, in which her performance caused James Agate to hail her as "the comedienne of the future". Sybil Thormdike agreed, "She's got it, hasn't she?" she said to Dorothy Dickson. "She's going to be a star."

After a year at the Paris finishing school of Madame de Landelles, Hyson made her adult London debut at 18 at the Playhouse Theatre as Gladys Cooper's daughter in Ivor Novello's comedy *Fires in the Sun*. She was bewildered to find herself wildly applauded on her entrance, largely because her celebrated mother was watching from the royal box. But being a star's daughter did not assist her debut in sound films with Cicely Courtneidge in the 1933 musical *Sisters of the King*. Courtneidge's husband, Jack Hulbert, who was choreographing, was "brutal" on



learning that Hyson had no idea how to perform an *adagio* dance. "Well, you'll just have to get on with it," he snapped.

Her appearance with Boris Karloff and Ralph Richardson in the early horror film *The Hound* brought her to the attention of American cinema-makers but she disliked Hollywood and resolved never to work there. Instead, she appeared at the Westminster Theatre in Maxwell Anderson's comedy *Saturday's Children* and joined Jack Buchanan and Elsie Randolph in the British musical film, *That's a Good Girl*.

Her captivating charm in the film of Ben Travers's *Alfresco* farce, *Turkey Time*, as the wistful perricote fought over by Tom Walls and Ralph Lynn, led to a two-year contract with one of Britain's top directors, Basil Dean, who overworked her disastrously. In May 1934 Hyson was appearing nightly with Flora Robson in Dottie Smith's West End play *Touch Wood* under Dean's direction, and simultaneously filming for him during the day on location in Blackpool in the Grace Fields musical, *Sing As We Go*. Exhausted by lack of sleep, long train journeys and Dean's bullying, Hyson suffered a severe nervous breakdown. She was replaced by the then unknown Margaret Lockwood as Annie Ridd in Dean's film of *Lorna Doone*.

Freed from Dean's autocratic domination, Hyson recovered to star in the musical film *Happy* as the blonde beauty with whom Stanley Lupino falls in love at first sight in a nightclub. She then rejoined Tom Walls and Ralph Lynn in a second screen version of a Ben Travers *Alfresco* farce *A Cup of Kindness*, followed by a West End role opposite Laurence Olivier in *The Ringmaster*, directed by Raymond Massey.

In 1935, at the age of 20, she married the British film and stage actor Robert Douglas, with whom she made her Broadway debut four months later in John Van Druten's short-lived comedy *Most of the Game*. Back in London in 1936, she appeared with Celia Johnson in the stage dramatisation of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, playing Jane Bennet. Also in the cast was Anthony Quayle, then married to the actress Hermione Hannon. Quayle was dazzled by Hyson's beauty but believed her to be happily married. In fact, her marriage to Douglas, of which her mother had deeply disapproved, had been a failure from the start.

Before she met Quayle again, Hyson starred in four West End plays: with Basil Radford in *To Have and to Hold*; with Margaret Rutherford in *The Melody That Got Lost*; with René Ray in *Three Blind Mice*;

and with Ann Todd in *She, Too, Was Young*. It was the casting of Hyson's close friend, Vivien Leigh, as Scarlett O'Hara in *Gone With the Wind*, that indirectly brought Quayle back into her life. In 1939 Hyson replaced Leigh as Titania in Tyrone Guthrie's Old Vic production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, opposite John Mills as Puck. Quayle was not in the cast but was also working at the Old Vic. There he saw Hyson again, standing at the stage door, and "stood transfixed" by her "beauty combined with a radiant lightness of heart... there and then I fell totally in love".

Still believing her to be happily married, he made no declaration and left for an Old Vic tour. Hyson meanwhile played Dame Irene Vanbrugh's daughter in *On the Verge* at the Playhouse, and a month after the outbreak of war, she joined Michael Wilding and Mary Malcolm in the revue *Let's Face It*. Hyson, like her mother, was devoid of conceit about her beauty. When Quayle did at last tell her that he loved her, she refused to take him seriously, but he felt certain enough to set in motion divorce proceedings against his wife.

Hyson's career as a star continued to bloom. In December 1939 she played Liberty in the musical *Who's Taking Liberty* at the Whitehall Theatre, followed by a comedy, *Blue Goose*, directed by Cecil Parker. Returning to films, she co-starred with Robert Morley in *You Will Remember* in 1940, and in 1941 in *Spore & Copper*, as the sweetheart of George Formby, who tried unsuccessfully to seduce her between takes while his wife was absent. Another West End comedy, *Under One Roof*, followed at the St Martin's Theatre in 1941, and then Hyson had her greatest success on the London stage, as Emily Strachan in Roland Pertwee's satirical Victorian thriller *Pink String and Sealing Wax* which ran for more than a year.

At the Lyric Theatre in 1944, she played opposite Dennis Price in *Scandal at Barchester*, adapted from the novels of Anthony Trollope, and as the war ended, Hyson starred at the Theatre Royal, Haymarket, in the title role of John Gielgud's celebrated production of Oscar Wilde's *Lady Windermere's Fan*. Her beauty, rendered even more vivid by the *fin de siècle* splendour of Cecil Beaton's gowns and sets, packed the theatre for 602 performances.

During her run as Lady Windermere, Robert Douglas, from whom Hyson had separated during the war, divorced her. Quayle had persisted in his courtship for eight years, but she had rejected so many proposals that he feared "my destiny was slipping away from me". When he fell ill with influenza, however, it at last brought Hyson to the realisation "that I cared for you more than anyone in the world". They were married on June 3, 1947.

Hyson was still in demand for film and stage roles after her marriage to Quayle, she rejected every offer, feeling that she could not successfully combine her career as a star with her responsibilities as wife and mother.

Hyson's influence over her husband was total. It was her continuing dislike of Hollywood that caused Quayle to reject an MGM film contract in 1948 in favour of the directorship of the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre at Stratford-upon-Avon. During Quayle's eight years as director at Stratford, Hyson became a theatrical hostess of formidable discernment. It was at her suggestion that, in 1951, the young Richard Burton played Prince Hal to Quayle's Falstaff at Stratford. Even when the critics, many members of the company and Quayle himself remained unconvinced of Burton's potential, Hyson continued to insist that he would become a major star.

Hyson's marriage to Quayle endured for 42 years and developed a strength that went far beyond their romantic courtship. In 1957, when Quayle appeared with Anna Neagle in the film *The Man Who Wouldn't Talk* his other leading lady, Zsa Zsa Gabor, fell in love with "his big round, lovable boyish face". Hyson, by remaining calm and keeping her sense of humour, averted a possible crisis. Many years later, when Gabor sent roses to Quayle's funeral with a note saying she would never forget him, Hyson reacted without concern. "She was rather amusing," she said of Gabor.

Hyson's beauty, which lasted into old age, was still strikingly evident in the 1977 *This Is Your Life* television tribute to Quayle, who had been appointed a Commander of the British Empire in 1982 and was knighted in 1985. In 1989 he was diagnosed as suffering from cancer of the abdomen and told he had only a few months to live. During his final crisis, Hyson was again a tower of strength, helping him to complete his memoirs, *A Time to Speak*, in which he wrote of his wife: "Without her I could have been nothing, done nothing." He died on October 20, 1989, with Hyson at his side.

In widowhood, despite increasing health problems, Hyson continued to play an active role in theatrical life. In 1993 she hosted a performance celebrating the life of Dame Peggy Ashcroft at the Playhouse Theatre, where she had made her first adult appearance in 1933, and sat in the same box her mother had occupied six years earlier to watch her debut.

The death of Hyson's mother, the legendary Dorothy Dickson, in 1995, at the age of 102, brought tributes pouring in from all over the world, including a long personal letter from Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, Dickson's closest friend for 72 years.

On January 28 of this year, Lady Quayle's devoted secretary, Diana Cooke, found her lying in the bedroom of her house in Elysian Place, Chelsea. She had suffered a stroke. During a long and gruelling final illness, she displayed indomitable courage and never lost the charm that had endeared her to everyone who knew her.

There were no children by her first marriage but she is survived by her son and two daughters from her marriage to Anthony Quayle, the younger of whom is the West End stage actress, Jenny Quayle.

DR TERENCE BAIRD

Dr Terence Baird, CB, Chief Medical Officer for Northern Ireland, 1972-78, died on May 18 aged 79. He was born on May 31, 1916.



TERRY BAIRD played a leading role in preparing the medical services in Northern Ireland to cope with a quarter-century of bloodshed. He enacted a disaster policy which ensured that hospitals could deal with large-scale emergencies and that those in centres such as Belfast and Londonderry had specialist units for treating the most seriously injured.

Baird also helped to set up a prison medical service and insisted on a strict code of medical ethics. All prisoners were his patients and as such should be treated humanely, without prejudice. This policy he maintained throughout hunger strikes and "dirty" protests - during which he advised a succession of government ministers.

He once volunteered to enter a sealed room in which a container of CS gas was released, in order to determine its impact on future victims. His verdict: extremely unpleasant but no lasting damage.

At the same time he had to care for the wider public. He set up a medical advisory committee and smaller bodies of experts, to ensure that he and Whitehall had the best advice. By background and inclination a clinician, as opposed to a medical bureaucrat or accountant, he contributed himself to medical knowledge. The "Baird Report" on infant mortality, the product of a committee which he chaired, is still regarded as having seminal value. He was a notable chairman of committees. Held in equal esteem was the book on infection in hospitals which Baird published with others 25 years ago.

Born Thomas Terence Baird in Londonderry, son of the Archdeacon of Derry, he crossed the Irish Sea to go to school at Haileybury before returning to read medicine at Queen's University, Belfast. A first-class oarsman, he rowed for Haileybury and was captain of boats at Queen's.

When war broke out, Baird was a houseman at the North Lonsdale Hospital, Barrow-in-Furness. In 1940, however, he was commissioned as a surgeon-lieutenant into the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve. He nearly lost his life in the same year, while serving in the destroyer *HMS Sturdy*. After being on convoy duties in the Atlantic, the warship was returning at night to her home port, Londonderry, when

heavy seas and southwesterly gales took her seriously off course.

Mistaking a lighthouse off Scotland for one of the north coast of Ireland, the navigating officer ordered "full steam ahead" for the Foyle Estuary. Minutes later the ship crashed onto rocks near Tiree, Scotland. Several sailors lost their lives while the remains of *Sturdy* are still beached there. Baird was rescued from the wreck by breeches buoy and went on to serve in the carrier *Victorious* in the Pacific and Indian Oceans before being demobilised as a lieutenant-commander.

After returning to Queen's to take a diploma in public health, he started his career with Berkshire County Council as assistant medical officer, leaving as deputy principal schools medical officer in 1954. For the following eight years he was in Cardiff, rising to become senior medical officer with the Welsh Board of Health before returning to his native Northern Ireland in 1962. He became Chief Medical Officer ten years later and was appointed CB in 1977.

On retiring in 1978, Baird settled in the large house and grounds beside the sea in Donegal which he had inherited from an uncle 16 years previously. Apart from a short consultancy in the Isle of Man he devoted much of his time there to his private forest. He and his wife had planted 16 acres of trees in the 1960s and he saw them grow from a height of 18 inches to 30 feet. But he also had five acres of grass to mow.

Baird continued to row until six months ago in his own wooden boat on Lough Foyle. An outgoing personality, he was immensely popular in Ireland. He never complained throughout his battle against cancer. To all who asked how he was coping he cheerfully replied: "Motoring on." After the death of his first wife Joan, Baird married again. He is survived by his second wife Jane and by two daughters of his first marriage.

WILLI DAUME

Willi Daume, sports administrator, died on May 17 aged 82. He was born on May 24, 1913.

THE life of Willi Daume, devoted to German and Olympic sports administration, was one of noble objectives and frustrated personal ambition. Daume was the mainspring behind the magnificent Olympic Games of Munich in 1972, which were grotesquely over-

shadowed by the Israeli team massacre. He subsequently failed in his attempt to become president of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) eight years later.

Having neglected the iron company which he owned, Eiser-Daume, which went bankrupt a few years ago, Daume died penniless. He was supported only by donations from major sports sponsors and an honorarium from

the German National Olympic Committee (NOC), of which he had been president from 1961 to 1992.

There are few in the history of the Olympic Games who have worked so diligently, for so long and with such altruism, for the benefit of sport. Daume had been a member of the German basketball team at the Berlin Olympics of 1936. After the war it was Daume more than anyone who

reorganised sport in what had become West Germany.

From 1949 to 1971 he was president of the German Sports Confederation, and it was from his joint position as president of the NOC that he conceived the plan to host the Games of 1972. Having been elected a member of the IOC in 1956, he persuaded that body to grant the Games to Munich at a meeting in Rome in 1966. It was an act of

international forgiveness. He had fulfilled the maxim by which he lived: "Ich liebe die grossen Entwürfe" (I love the grand designs).

His reward, and that of Germany, was to be humiliation. The futuristic design of Munich's new stadiums, still spectacular 25 years later, together with a new underground railway and village, provided an inspiring stage for the most modern Games yet conceived. But the mood of celebration was shattered on the morning of September 6, with the Arab terrorist assault on the Israeli headquarters, and the subsequent death of all hostages. Daume's reputation was further harmed by his unwitting announcement to a late evening emergency session of the IOC that all were safe (he had been given false information). With a broken heart, he organised a memorial service for the victims in the main stadium the following day.

More ill-fortune was in store for Daume. When Montreal, the host city for 1976, seemed likely to default because of construction

strikes, corruption and inflation, Daume devised a plan in private discussion with Lord Killanin, the IOC president, for transferring events to Germany and Holland. It proved premature, and did little to rescue Daume's reputation.

Killanin resigned after eight years in 1980, just before Moscow's Olympics, leaving Daume as one of four candidates for the succession. Although he considered himself unlikely to win, he thought he was a strong runner. Again he was humiliated. He received only seven votes out of 79 in a first-round ballot, which elected Juan Antonio Samaranch by an overall majority of 14 over James Worrall, Marc Hodler and Daume.

A further project which he organised, the IOC Congress of 1981 at Baden Baden - the occasional meeting of the three arms of the Olympics: the IOC, Sports Federations and NOCs - was diminished in significance because of the exclusion of those countries which had boycotted Moscow. In 1987 Daume launched his last grand idea: the hosting of



the Millennium Games of 2000 by Berlin, to aid the reunification of the two Germanies. Subsequently, the Wall came down, Germany was politically reunited, and the Berlin bid lost its *raison d'être*, disintegrating in mismanagement. It was eliminated in the second ballot before Sydney's election by two votes over Peking.

The lasting contribution of Daume, however, will be from his tireless work, as chairman

of the Eligibility Commission, to redefine the IOC's stance on amateurism. By the 1970s the Olympics were dominated by totalitarian state-sponsored teams, who were wholly professional in preparation, amateur only by false declaration. There had to be an adjustment, Samaranch demanded. Daume himself was irritated with the perverse attitude of Avery Brundage, then IOC president, when the latter inspected the Munich village in 1972. Brundage had protested at every airline bag or sponsored truckload of Western teams, while accepting uncritically every commercial aspect of East German and Soviet teams.

It was Daume's patient campaigning among colleagues at the sessions of 1985 to 1987 that helped finally to persuade the IOC to accept an open Olympics. It was the only logical conclusion for a situation already informally long in practice and it was Daume's final service to the IOC, for which he was vice-president from 1972 to 1975.

He leaves a widow, Rosemarie, a son and daughter.

PERSONAL COLUMN

GIFTS

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

A DEBATE on modern history, good or bad? Tuesday 5 June 8.30pm. Bishop Copley, Bishop of Exeter. Tel: 01454 418844. Fax: 01454 418844. 9pm 7 days.

SATURDAY SALES

GETTING BARRISTERS? A choice of 100s of wedding dresses at 100% discount. Tel: 01746 716070. Fax: 01746 716070. 9pm 7 days.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COUNTRY HOUSES Association for the sale of country houses. Tel: 01454 418844. Fax: 01454 418844. 9pm 7 days.

What happens when the money runs out?

Care home fees can swallow up capital very quickly. We can help by offering the security of a home for life with DGA, or top-up fees in other care homes for those on income support. Call FREEPHONE 0800 415 221.

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DO YOU BELIEVE IN LIFE AFTER DEATH? We do. Kidney research saves lives. So do legacies.

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## NEWS

### Police raid football hooligans

Northumbria police struck the opening blow yesterday against football hooligans planning to disrupt Euro 96, with co-ordinated raids leading to 19 arrests and the seizure of weapons and inflammatory literature.

Other police forces will carry out similar operations in the next few weeks after months of intelligence-gathering and analysis of violence during last season's football matches. Page 1

### Crime check for job applicants

Employers are to have access to job applicants' criminal records under proposals to be outlined in a White Paper aimed at providing greater protection to the public. An independent agency would manage access to the records. Page 1

### New top judge

A shake-up of civil and criminal justice was heralded by the announcement that Sir Thomas Bingham is to be the next Lord Chief Justice. Pages 1, 18, 21

### Joker in the pack

Peter Mandelson, scourge of many traditional socialists, has found a new popularity among old Labour as the joker in the pack. Page 1

### Hogg at bay

Douglas Hogg, the Agriculture Minister, admitted that he could lose his job over his handling of the beef crisis. Page 2

### 'Road rage' beating

An ex-serviceman with cancer was dragged from his car and beaten mercilessly during a "road rage" attack by three men. Page 3

### Major in Bosnia

John Major visited Bosnia to gauge the success of the Dayton peace accords. Page 12

### Toxic homes

Arsenic, lead and mercury have been found in concentrations up to 16 times the recommended safety level in dozens of back gardens in Oxford. Page 7

### Islam warning

The West has too readily discounted the possibility of conflict with Islam, the Archbishop of Canterbury said. Pages 8, 15

### Gun attack

A mentally ill young man became so obsessed with the Hungerford massacre that he shot 17 people in 20 minutes. Page 9

### Trappists murdered

France reacted with shock to the murder of seven French Trappist monks by Islamic terrorists in Algeria. Page 13

### Chechen meeting

President Yeltsin is to hold his first meeting with the leader of the Chechen rebels. Page 11

### Lollipop lady on the mainline

A primary school lollipop lady in Brooklyn, New York, has been charged with selling heroin which was packaged to look like sweets. Amariles Martinez had 20 bags of heroin under her uniform when she was arrested. Page 12

## NATURE NOTES

**Giant Panderer**  
(*Mandatoris sententis*)  
Adores captivity and loves to perform tricks before a large audience. Distinguished by two lovely black eyes, courtesy the judiciary.



### Judging judges

If judges choose to become more political, then they may undermine the foundation of their own independence. Page 19

### Spirit of life

Pentecost is the celebration of the divine grace from which God's gifts spring, and a reminder that the Church of God, for all its failings, is a divine society and not simply a human institution. Page 19

### Manners from heaven

There has been a decline in civility and order, which threatens our society perhaps even more than crime. Page 19

### Simon Jenkins

Lord Taylor of Gossforth, the retiring Lord Chief Justice, lays a charge against Michael Howard of plotting to subvert British justice. Both claim that public order is at stake. Page 18

### Dorothy Hyson

Stage star, and widow of Sir Anthony Quayle: Willi Daume, sports administrator. Page 21

### Dancing delight

"Not everything goes according to plan on the Royal Ballet's visit to Norway," Richard Morrison writes. Page 15

### Screen to stage

Calamity Jane has gone on stage at Sadler's Wells, with Gemma Craven in the "Doris Day" role; at the Birmingham Rep, *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes* is staged. Page 15

### LETTERS

Prime Minister's non-co-operation policy on beef: costs of church archaeology; Botswana Bushmen. Page 19

### Wise man

Patrick Minford, one of the Treasury's six "wise men", has been retained to advise on an international money-making scheme described in Parliament as "an iniquitous pyramid-selling scam". Page 23

### Markets

The FT-SE 100 index rose 5.1 to close at 3752.1. The sterling index rose to 84.9 after a fall to 81.527 but a rise to DM2.3321. Page 26

### Gott

Nick Faldo recorded a five-under-par 67 to lead the field in the first round of the PGA Championship at Wentworth. Page 44

### Racing

Willie Carson indicated that he will retire from a 35-year riding career at the end of the Flat season. Page 44

### VISION

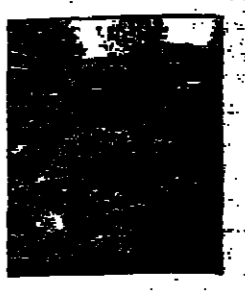
Who's Who? Paul McGann as the new Doctor, Bank Holiday Monday and located in San Francisco — BBC1, 8.30pm

## SEVEN MAGAZINE

Royal roadshow: Sarah Bradford on the highway to hell. Page 8  
Uplifting songs: Japan's uncertain youth. Page 24

## WEEKEND

Beat the janes: Cities of pleasure. Pages 1, 2



Books: Michael Shea: Bill Fitzhugh; Michael Black; Josephine Hart and Alan Garner. Pages 12, 15

## 10 15

Good as gold: Anna Reeder, the 16-year-old gymnast heading for the Olympics. Page 6

## VISION

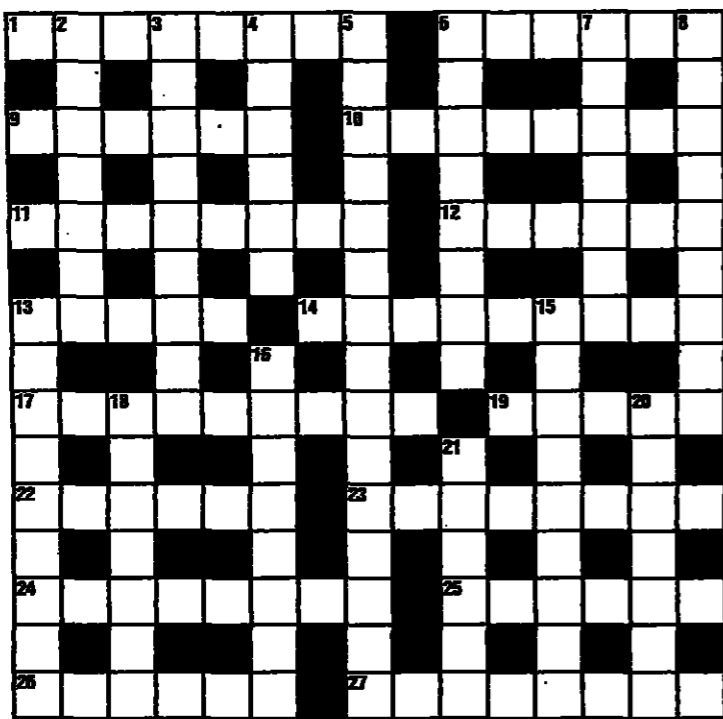


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## THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,177

**ABERLOUR**  
A limited edition, 1970 vintage bottle of Aberlour single malt whisky, the only malt whisky to have twice won the prestigious Gold Medal and Pot Still Trophy at the International Wine & Spirit Competition, will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address



- ACROSS**
- 1 Typist, for instance, by kind journalist (8)
  - 6 Foundation among those producing better figures? (6)
  - 9 Harmonised arrangement for spinet (2,4)
  - 10 Sort of table where opening of pepper cruet is broken (8)
  - 11 One who provides weapons a soldier's given by our monarch (8)
  - 12 Getting purple after exercises for addition to waistline (6)
  - 13 Cry of rook chasing mother bird (5)
  - 14 Makers of ark animal almost bolts into (9)
  - 17 It offers a great deal to Sibyl the tourist (9)
  - 19 Royal Lad turns back, surrounded by unusually large fences (5)
  - 22 Head's ascent backs early learning department initially (6)
  - 23 The wife's a fussy person (3,5)
  - 24 The bottom line in his business is difficult to make out (8)
  - 25 Sudden ludicrous descent from black mount (6)
  - 26 Ignority represent beginning and end of liberty (6)
- DOWN**
- 27 Condemn assessment on former London district (8)
  - 2 Having performed song, taken up for lemonade in tent? (7)
  - 3 One whose fingers can handle frozen joints (9)
  - 4 Grows smaller pig-like mammals, say (6)
  - 5 One's vacation gets one off to a flying start (9,6)
  - 6 Fawns around the king in soft-soled shoes (8)
  - 7 Crushing remark from second master at Greyfriars (7)
  - 8 For such clannish types, MOT test is absurd (9)
  - 13 State incorrectly mare is fit for racing (9)
  - 15 Tallboy, say, has got the beetle, possibly (3,6)
  - 16 Why, say, a priest first slipped into bitterness (8)
  - 18 Showy flower — stupid dog ate one (7)
  - 20 Recipe information from memory (4,3)
  - 21 Some deed I bless — is it okay to so? (6)

### Solution to Puzzle No 20,171

SPRINGTIME YOGI  
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T R I E S G I  
C O S T O R L I V I N G  
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T U L I S N W E  
C O U K S H O T A N D C O L D  
C A T U S C E R G  
H A T E A S C E N D A N C Y

### Solution to Puzzle No 20,176

POSTSCRIPT MARG  
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S N A K E C H A R M S L N  
T L E I S I N S T A N T  
N S A T E D  
G A E L C L O S E D S H O P

LAST WEEK'S WINNERS: R. Bagg, Glasgow; T. Young, Eastleigh; L. M. Reynolds, Penzance; Cornwell, P. Bailey, Bournemouth; Dorset; J. L. Dick, Milton, North Yorkshire.

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0801 500 1000 or visit the code.

Region	Forecast
North East	701
North West	702
Yorkshire & the Humber	703
East of England	704
West of England	705
South East	706
South West	707
London & the South East	708
Central England	709
East Midlands	710
West Midlands	711
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### FORECAST

General: England and Wales will have sunny spells but also a few showers, tending to die out from the South West. There may be light rain or drizzle in the South West during the afternoon and perhaps over South Wales in the evening. Scotland and Northern Ireland will have sunny spells and showers. Temperatures will be generally a little below the seasonal average.

London, SE England, E Anglia, Central S England, E Midlands: bright start, becoming cloudier with showers at times. Wind southwesterly, light to moderate. Max 17C (63F).

E England, W Midlands, Central N: bright start, cloud building with showers by later morning. Becoming mostly dry later. Wind southwesterly, moderate. Max 16C (61F).

Channel Isles, SW England, S Wales: showers, light rain later. Wind

southwest turning south or southeast, moderate. Max 16C (61F).

N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, NE England: sunny start, showers developing. Wind southwesterly, light to moderate. Max 16C (61F).

Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, N Ireland: dry start, sunny intervals but showers developing. Wind southwesterly, light to moderate. Max 15C (59F).

NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: mostly cloudy, some showers or rain. Wind southwest, turning west or northwest, light to moderate. Rather cool. Max 12C (54F).

Outlook: rain in south slowly clearing, bright spells and showers in north.

### AROUND BRITAIN

24 hrs to 5 pm: bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=drizzle; s=sunny; sh=showers; t=thunder; w=wind; x=variable; y=very; z=zero.

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0330 401 followed by the code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks

Area within M25

Area between M25 & M1

Area between M1 & M6

Area between M6 & M10

Area between M10 & M11

Area between M11 & M12

Area between M12 & M13

Area between M13 & M14

Area between M14 & M15

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Area between M39 & M40

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